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Sense & Hackability

Cybercriminals find a surprising use for the words of Jane Austen

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DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bombardier may face ban on TTC bids

TRANSIT

Streetcar delay could lead to run-in with Cancon policy

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

If you're waiting for a streetcar and your patience is running out, you're not alone.

The TTC is considering banning Bombardier from bidding on any more contracts to build transit vehicles, calling into question a Canadian-content policy that favours the Thunder Bay company.

Bombardier announced Wednesday it would be a year behind schedule in delivering 204 new streetcars, frustrating TTC chairman Josh Colle.

"I don't want any more excuses, I just want our damn streetcars," he said Wednesday morning.

The TTC has asked for legal advice on banning Bombardier from vehicle tenders in the future, and will debate it at a future meeting.

Part of the debate is likely to be an agreement between the TTC and the provincial government that at least 25 per cent of transit-vehicle production be done in Canada.

"Toronto's preference should be Canadian — but not necessarily Canadian if the company can't provide the goods on time and on budget," said Coun. Josh Matlow.

While Canadian companies provide Canadian jobs at home, Bombardier's streetcar delay is affecting Canadians' jobs, too — by making it more difficult for them to get to work and back in the congestion that the new vehicles are intended to help ease, Matlow said.

The TTC report on the legalities of banning Bombardier noted that the contentious contract had required at least 25 per cent of the vehicles' production be done in Canada — and Bombardier was the only Canadian company able to bid. When Bombardier won the contract in 2009, its price was 50 per cent less than the closest competitor, Germany's Siemens — a difference of over half a billion dollars.

While Siemens wouldn't comment to Metro about the Cancon issue, or how much the requirement added to their bid, the company has publicly complained about the cost of the policy in the past.

In 2011, when Ottawa was undergoing a similar process, Siemens told the city's media that allowing more foreign content would save the city money.

"Only Bombardier has a facility in Canada. All other suppliers will have to ramp up a facility, produce the LRT vehicles and ramp down the facility," a spokesperson said at the time. In the end, Ottawa went with Alstom, a French company.

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Breaking Bad houses for sale. Meth lab not included. **Business**

How hot is your 'hood?

Even in the middle of a heat wave, some parts of Toronto are hotter than others. Working with Natural Resources Canada, health officials have mapped surface temperatures across the city, revealing a slightly cooler core surrounded by a ring of warmer neighbourhoods. Although the data is from 2008, a Toronto Public Health spokeswoman told Metro the map is accurate.

LUKE SIMCOE METRO

THE BRIDLE PATH NEAR BAYVIEW AND LAWRENCE

According to the map, wealthier neighbourhoods, like the Bridle Path, for example, tend to be cooler than less affluent ones.

The reason? Trees.

The added shade, coupled with the cooling effect of vegetation, helps mitigate the heat.

"If you look at the centre of the city, it's an affluent and very treed part of Toronto. It's also an area with lower average temperatures," said Toronto Public Health spokeswoman Monica Campbell.

THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT BAY AND KING

While still warm, the city's downtown core is not as hot as you might expect. The area's tall towers act like trees, offering shade and creating a natural cooling effect.

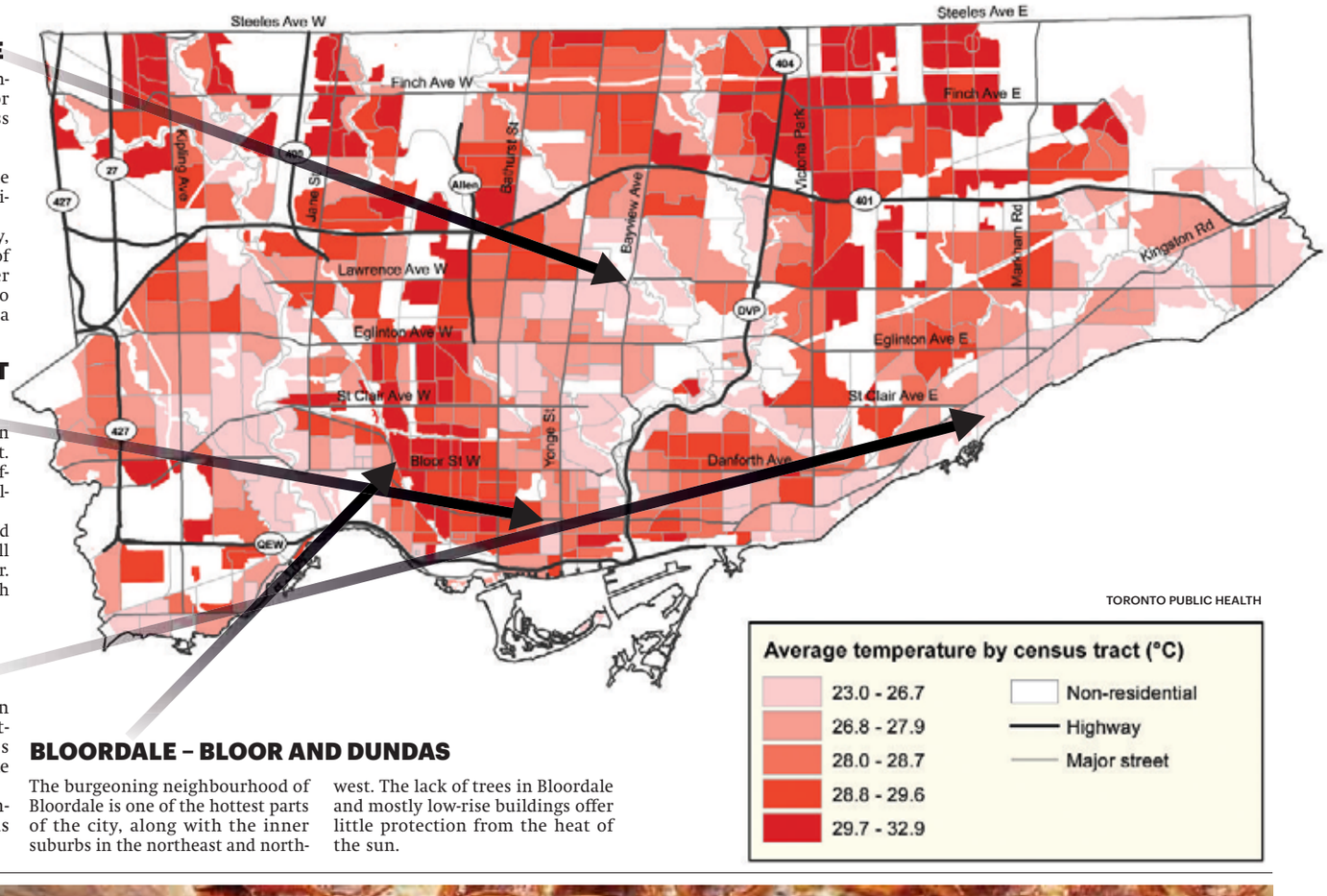
As downtown Toronto continues to add to its number of green roofs, Campbell believes the core will actually get cooler.

"Plant materials don't absorb as much heat," she said.

EASTERN LAKESHORE ANYWHERE

With fewer condo developments than its western counterpart, the eastern lakeshore of Toronto receives more of the cooling influence of Lake Ontario.

The added tree canopy in neighbourhoods like the Beach helps as well, Campbell said.



TORONTO PUBLIC HEALTH

BLOORDALE – BLOOR AND DUNDAS

The burgeoning neighbourhood of Bloordale is one of the hottest parts of the city, along with the inner suburbs in the northeast and northwest. The lack of trees in Bloordale and mostly low-rise buildings offer little protection from the heat of the sun.

5 PIECES OF PUBLIC ART YOU LIKELY HAVEN'T SEEN YET

Waterfront Toronto has been installing some striking public art in the West Donlands area — but most of it's off limits to the public. It's been fenced off for construction and, most recently, security around the athletes' village as part of the Pan Am Games. Once the Parapan Am Games end Aug. 15, the area will be unveiled for the public's first look at the new Canary District. Here's a sneak peek at spots that will look very different from what most Torontonians remember.

JESSICA SMITH CROSS/METRO PHOTOS COURTESY WATERFRONT TORONTO

1 THE WATER GUARDIANS

It's the work of Canadian artists Jennifer Marman and Daniel Borins along with landscape architect James Khamsi. They were tasked with creating a work that would engage children. It's found on Front Street.

2 NO SHOES

Created by Mark di Suvero, the work isn't actually new, but many have likely never seen it like this before. It was one of two pieces di Suvero created for a High Park design competition in 1967. It's been restored and reinstalled in Corktown Commons.

3 UNTITLED

Tadashi Kawamata is behind this piece that celebrates how the city has "lampposts in a wide variety of styles, materials and heights that have come to characterize eras and areas," according to Waterfront Toronto. It stands on Front Street.

4 PEELED PAVEMENT

As its name suggests, this piece by Jill Anholt shows the pavement of Front Street as if a small section was peeled up. The underside is bronze and lighted.

5 SITE SPECIFIC

Scott Eunson and Marianne Lovink created this piece at Sumach Street and Eastern Avenue. It portrays the history of the area. The artists worked with a historian and local children when they created it.

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A MESSAGE OF PUBLIC INTEREST FROM
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votetostopthecuts.ca

Woman asked to fly the coop

AIRLINES

Man refuses to sit next to her, she refuses to give up seat

A passenger aboard a Porter flight on Monday said that she was asked to change seats to accommodate another passenger who she says would not sit beside a woman for religious reasons.

Christine Flynn, executive chef for iQ Food Co. in Toronto's financial district, said she was buckled in her seat, awaiting takeoff on a flight from Newark to Toronto, when a man wearing traditional Orthodox Jewish garb walked down the aisle to his assigned seat beside her.

Looking "bewildered," Flynn said that the man "swivelled around to the gentleman across the aisle ... and just said 'change,'" without acknowledging her.

Porter spokesperson Brad Cicero confirmed that Flynn was asked by an airline attendant if she would be willing to move but would not say the reason the request was made. Cicero also maintained "she was not ever put in the position of being told to move."

Cicero also said that changes are now being made to Porter policy, and that new, specific examples will be incorporated into instructions given to crew members regarding their behaviour in airports and on flights.

It was not the need for religious accommodation, but her exclusion from the conversation that offended Flynn.

"If this man had made eye contact with me, if he said 'I'm very sorry but because of my religion I'm forbidden' ... I would have absolutely moved, I would have had no problem with that, but to not be included in the conversation, to take away my words and my right to choose ... this is the 21st century," she said.

> **For me, this isn't about religion.**
> Christine Flynn

The man asked a couple of people to change seats before an airline attendant stopped to see what the problem was. Flynn says the attendant did not dispute Flynn's understanding or address the man's concern directly, but asked if she would be willing to move seats.

Flynn refused to move.

"This is ridiculous . . . this is discrimination," she said.

The flight attendant then sought someone else to switch seats with the man, and another passenger volunteered.

Flynn said that Porter has since emailed her, affirming that she was under no obligation to change seats and said that their policy is now under review.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Lillian Culp carries the Pan Am flame on a kayak in Welland back in June. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

PARAPAN 2015

Two torches will carry flames

Paralympic medallists, rock singers, and hockey players will help carry the torch as two Parapan Am flames cross the province's waterfront for a five-day torch relay beginning Aug. 3.

Starting at opposite ends of Southern Ontario, the two flames will be carried by more than 250 torchbearers before arriving in Toronto for the Aug. 7 opening ceremonies.

"I just cannot emphasize enough the fierce talent and competition we are going to see," Toronto 2015 CEO Saad Rafi said. "It is worthy of filled houses of spectators and cheering fans just as we've seen for the Pan Am Games. These athletes deserve nothing less."

Ticket sales for the games are approaching 50,000 of the 200,000 available, organizers announced Tuesday.

The flame will cover 700 kilometres and visit 12 communities before arriving at York University's new athletics stadium for the games' opening ceremonies.

With more than 1,600 athletes from 28 nations, organizers are billing Toronto's Parapan Am Games as the largest in history.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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FAIL

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FAIL

HEALTHCARE

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FAIL

RETIREMENT SECURITY

11 million Canadians have no workplace pension plan. Ignores the looming crisis and insists Canadians just fend for themselves

FAIL

The Harper Conservatives: Not making the grade

A message from Canada's largest confederation of independent unions

CONFEDERATION OF CANADIAN UNIONS
www.ccu-csc.ca

From left: sisters Tameera, Alysha, Zahra and Nadia Mohamed. Alysha, Nadia and Tameera were stopped by police Friday in Waterloo for being topless and are responding with a rally. FACEBOOK

No shirt no shame, sisters proclaim

SOCIAL MEDIA

Women to rally after police ask them to cover up in public

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

"Why can't I show up with my penis hanging out?" is exactly the kind of Facebook comment Alysha Mohamed is tired of refuting.

"It's hard to reply to a thousand people and explain to them that it's not really equivalent," she said. "We're just going topless, which is a right men exercise all the time."

Mohamed said she and her sisters have been subjected to vicious online commentary since organizing Bare With Us, a rally in Kitchener-Waterloo on Saturday in support of women's right to bare their breasts.

"There's so many hateful and misogynistic comments, but that just proves the need for the rally and building awareness," she said.

The rally was born after Mohamed and two of her sisters, riding their bikes topless, were stopped Friday by Waterloo Regional Police. The officer demanded they cover up, despite the fact women in Canada have been allowed to go topless in public since 1996.

The rally's Facebook page contains a host of comments from men berating Mohamed and her sisters as "self-serving" and "tasteless." Some of the comments have been Islamophobic, Mohamed said.

> **"There's so many hateful and misogynistic comments, but that just proves the need for the rally."**
> Alysha Mohamed

"It's hard to have people keep lumping their values on you," she said. "Is it that hard to just show some respect for the ways people want to have autonomy over their own bodies?"

The Bare With Us rally is scheduled for Saturday at noon at Waterloo Town Square. Going topless is entirely optional, Mohamed said.

IN BRIEF

Man stands accused of possessing child porn

Toronto police have charged a man with possessing and accessing child pornography.

Officers with the sex-crimes child-exploitation section executed a search warrant on Tuesday.

Investigators allege the accused stored the pornography online and was also in possession of child pornography at his home.

The accused is Erick Bergmann, 54, of Toronto. He is scheduled to appear in court Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MARKHAM

Seniors allowed to stay for rebuilding

The seniors of a Markham retirement community who were to be moved to make space for a new seniors' residence have been told they can stay until their new homes are built.

The 110 seniors at the Markham Heritage Village were given the good news on Friday.

The nearly 10-acre site will be sold to developer Minto on condition that a portion is resold to York Region to build new affordable housing for seniors.

Initially, the residents had been told they would be forced to make two moves, with one as early as December 2016, with the possibility of moving back into the new residence four years later. The prospect concerned many residents, especially those in their late 90s.

"All parties have agreed to pursue a revised plan that would see the regional building constructed first so that the residents might be offered the first opportunity for relocation," said Bruce Macgregor, CAO of York Region, in an email on Friday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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HEALTH

Higher cancer risk for Ontario Métis: study

Ontario's Métis face a significantly higher cancer risk than the province's non-aboriginals and require culturally sensitive prevention programs, says a new study.

The joint report from Cancer Care Ontario and the Métis Nation of Ontario released Wednesday outlines the aboriginal group's cancer risk factors including higher rates of smoking, alcohol consumption and obesity.

The report's authors said the smoking rates are of specific concern, particularly the number of teens and young adults who have taken up the habit.

They found that 17 per cent of Métis teens smoke, compared to just eight per cent of non-aboriginal teens — and 47 per cent of Métis adults in their 20s smoke compared to 27 per cent of non-aboriginals in the same age bracket.

Dr. Loraine Marrett, a senior scientist at Cancer Care Ontario, said in an interview that researchers combined six years of sample surveys from Statistics Canada on the lifestyle factors that play the largest role in cancer risk.

"We got to the point where we had enough years of data where we put a bunch of annual surveys together and we had enough numbers where we could look at the Métis in Ontario on their own," she said. "It was really (prompted by) the lack of information that we have about cancer and cancer risk within the Métis community.""

The Ontario Cancer Registry tracks diagnoses and deaths from the disease, but does not include race or ethnicity data, and many aboriginal-specific cancer studies are generalized.

Wenda Watteyne, Métis Nation of Ontario's director of healing and wellness, said the numbers are considerable cause for concern and have prompted the organization to put out a call to action on reducing commercial tobacco use.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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HBC HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

Bread&Butter Designs owner Blake Shaver alongside a custom built media centre inside his woodshop on July 29, 2015. The piece is made up entirely of reclaimed wood from the iconic strip club Jilly's. BRIAN B. BETTENCOURT/TORONTO STAR

Jilly's final strip show

HERITAGE

Designer builds custom projects from club's wood remnants

Jilly's, the infamous east-end strip club, is getting stripped one last time.

Blake Shaver, owner of Bread&Butter Designs, a Toronto-based design studio that builds using reclaimed wood, has salvaged the wooden joists from the club and plans to give them a new lease on life as custom furniture.

Jilly's, which occupied the bottom floor of the New Broadview Hotel, was purchased along with the rest of the building by Streetcar Developments last year.

The plan is to gut the 122-year-old building and turn it into a boutique hotel.

But thanks to Bread&Butter, strip-club sentimentalists will now be able to keep a piece of Jilly's in their home.

Shaver, who said he has "fuzzy" memories of Jilly's from his early 20s, has already started working on a couple of projects using the wood, which is mostly Douglas fir and spruce.

Eddie Fiore, another sometime Jilly's customer, will be the recipient of one of the first pieces — a media console.

He said he was "pumped" when he learned it was being made with wood from Jilly's.

"It's more interesting having wood from a place like that than some scrapyard," he said. "At least there's a story behind it."

When asked if he had any concerns about people finding the console's back story unappealing, he said the only one who might be grossed out is his mom.

"She might go, 'Ew, that's kind of gross.' But being who I am, I think it's kind of fitting and she'll see the humour eventually," he said.

In fact, according to Shaver, anyone who finds the furniture off-putting is missing the point.

"It was the hotel before it was Jilly's ... The wood is more than 100 years old and it's awesome to work with," he said. "We're recycling and trying to do something positive for the environment."

Shaver said he's been creating custom designs using centuries-old wood from the Distillery District for years, but people seem much more excited about pieces made with wood from Jilly's.

Still not convinced? He insists there's nothing to worry about.

"It's not like we reclaimed the carpet and we're trying to sell it to you as a duvet cover," said Shaver. "There are no bugs or diseases or anything. It's just a cool story." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

The signs outside Jilly's. TIM ALAMENCIAK/TORONTO STAR

TOYOTA On the Park

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NEW ZEALAND

Condolences shared for avalanche victims

Two Montrealers who died in an avalanche while hiking in New Zealand were remembered on Wednesday as avid outdoorsmen as well as students who were talented, creative and involved.

New Zealand police confirmed that the two bodies found in debris near a popular hiking track were those of Louis-Vincent Lessard and Etienne Lemieux, who were both Université de Montreal industrial design students.

"They were marked by an overwhelming enthusiasm and infectious good mood," Fabienne Munch, the faculty of design's director, said in a statement published on the university's website.

"The school of design, its professors and classroom staff will remember their commitment and their charming smiles."

On Facebook, a page that was set up to help locate the 23-year-old students when they went missing turned into a memorial with hundreds of messages of condolence.

"We would also like to thank everyone who transmitted messages of encouragement as well as information to help advance the search effort," the Lemieux family said on the New Zealand police website.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

London-bound plane forced to land in Montreal

A London-bound plane carrying more than 300 people from the United States was forced to land in Montreal on Wednesday because of a bomb threat, police said.

Police received a call about 40 minutes before the British Airways plane touched down at Pierre-Elliott-Trudeau International Airport.

British Airways said the captain made the decision to divert the aircraft as a precaution. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vote follows trade deal

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

Harper ready to sign off on international blockbuster

The Conservatives are anxiously hoping to sign off on a massive free-trade deal before kicking off an election campaign that's expected to start as early as Sunday.

CBC reported that Prime Minister Stephen Harper will head to Rideau Hall in Ottawa on Sunday or Monday to ask Gov. Gen. David Johnston to dissolve Parliament to call a federal election as early as Aug. 2.

The federal government is at the negotiating table in Hawaii, where Trans-Pacific Partnership talks are reportedly in their final stages.

With voting day set for Oct. 19, the governing Tories want to launch the campaign with the deal in hand — an agreement they could brandish as evidence of their economic stewardship.

The partnership, a pact between 12 countries including Canada, the U.S., Mexico and Japan, is poised to become the biggest trade deal in history once ratified.

Experts say if the talks continue after the start of the campaign, they could prove politically sensitive for the government.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper steps out of his residence at 24 Sussex Drive in June. He's expected to call a federal election as early as Sunday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

In particular, Canada is under pressure from other countries to lower the high tariffs that currently protect domestic producers of eggs, milk, cheese and poultry from foreign competition.

In an interview with Bloomberg, Harper is insisting the government will protect the interests of every Canadian industry "as best we can."

Harper says the negotiations are "well advanced" and that Canada "cannot be left out of this kind of trade arrangement."

THE CANADIAN PRESS/METRO

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HAWAII A VERY STICKY SETTLEMENT A Maston ship sits in Honolulu Harbor near the site of a September 2013 molasses spill. A major shipping company will pay Hawaii more than $15 million for the spill, the state's attorney general said Wednesday. The settlement includes a combination of cash, restoration efforts and funding for environmental programs. The 1,400 tons of molasses that spilled into the harbour killed more than 26,000 fish and other marine life.
OSKAR GARCIA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. officer indicted

CINCINNATI

Race could be a factor in traffic stop shooting investigation

A University of Cincinnati police officer who shot a motorist during a traffic stop over a missing front licence plate has been indicted on murder charges, a prosecutor said Wednesday, adding that the officer "purposely killed him."

Prosecutor Joe Deters announced the grand jury indictment at a news conference to discuss developments in the investigation into the July 19 shooting of 43-year-old motorist Samuel DuBose by officer Ray Tensing.

DuBose's death comes amid months of national scrutiny of police dealings with African-Americans, especially those killed by officers. DuBose was black. Tensing is white. Authorities haven't indicated whether race was a part of the investigation.

> **He purposely killed him. He should never have been a police officer.**
> Prosecutor Joe Deters

Authorities have said Tensing spotted the car driven by DuBose and missing the front licence plate, which is required by Ohio law. They say Tensing stopped the car and a struggle ensued after DuBose refused to provide a driver's licence and get out of the car.

Tensing has said he was dragged by the car and forced to shoot at DuBose. He fired one shot, striking DuBose in the head.

But Deters dismissed Tensing's claim that he was dragged by the car and suggested that he shouldn't have pulled DuBose over to begin with.

"He fell backward after he shot (DuBose) in the head," Deters said.

A warrant was issued for Tensing's arrest. Deters said Tensing could either turn himself in or officers could arrest him.

Tensing's attorney, Stewart Mathews, didn't immediately return phone messages seeking comment after Deters' announcement.

Mathews said earlier Wednesday that he thought an indictment was likely "given the political climate" and comments made by city officials. But Mathews said given the evidence he's seen, he doesn't believe there should be an indictment.

Body-camera video of the shooting was also released Wednesday. DuBose's family had been pressing for its release, and news organizations including The Associated Press had sued Deters to get it released under Ohio open records law, but Deters released it before any ruling had been made.

Deters called the shooting "senseless" and "asinine."

"He purposely killed him," Deters said. "He should never have been a police officer."

The prosecutor also said he thought it was time to reconsider the university police department's role. "I don't think a university should be in the policing business," Deters said.

The university said earlier this week it plans an independent review of its police department's policies.

If convicted, Tensing could face as much as life in prison.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Men who helped dentist kill lion appear in court

ZIMBABWE

Luring cat into kill zone deemed illegal, unethical

A hunting guide and a farm owner appeared in court Wednesday on allegations they helped an American dentist kill a protected lion named Cecil, and the head of Zimbabwe's safari association said the big cat was unethically lured into the kill zone and denied "a chance of a fair chase."

The Zimbabwean men were accused of aiding Walter James Palmer, who reportedly paid $50,000 to track and kill the black-maned lion. Zimbabwe police have said they are looking for Palmer, whose exact whereabouts were unknown.

During the nighttime hunt, the men tied a dead animal to their car to draw the lion out of a national park, said Johnny Rodrigues, chairman of the Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force.

The American is believed to have shot it with a crossbow, injuring the cat. The wounded lion was tracked for 40 hours before Palmer fatally shot it with a gun, Rodrigues said.

A professional hunter named Theo Bronkhorst was accused of failing to "prevent an unlawful hunt." Court documents say Bronkhorst was supervising while Palmer shot the animal.

A woman writes on a sign outside Dr. Walter James Palmer's dental office in Bloomington, Minn., Wednesday. Palmer reportedly paid $50,000 to track and kill a black-maned lion, just outside Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe. ANN HEISENFELT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bronkhorst was released on $1,000 bail after appearing at the Hwange magistrate's court, about 700 kilometres west of the capital Harare, according to his defence lawyer, Givemore Muvhiringi.

If convicted, Bronkhorst faces up to 15 years in prison.

A second man, farm owner Honest Trymore Ndlovu, also appeared in court but was not charged and was released from custody.

Using bait to lure the lion is deemed unethical by the Safari Operators Association of Zimbabwe, of which Bronkhorst is a member. The association has since revoked his licence.

Palmer remained secluded Wednesday in the face of protests at his clinic and the online furor.

Palmer has several hunts on record with the Minnesota-based Pope and Young Club, where archers register big game taken in North America, said Glenn Hisey, the club's director of records. Hisey said he didn't have immediate access to records showing the types and number of animals killed by Palmer, but noted that club records involve legal hunts "taken under our rules of fair chase."

According to U.S. court records, Palmer pleaded guilty in 2008 to making false statements to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about a black bear he fatally shot in Wisconsin. Palmer had a permit to hunt but shot the animal outside the authorized zone in 2006, then tried to pass it off as being killed elsewhere, according to court documents. He was given one year probation and fined nearly $3,000.

Hisey said he alerted the group's board that Palmer's ethics were being called into question. He said Palmer's domestic records could be jeopardized if he's found to have done something illegal abroad.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PALMER

U.S. lion hunter has Alberta connection

There appears to be a Canadian connection to a U.S. hunter at the centre of a social media storm for killing a protected lion in Africa. The Bowhunting Records of Alberta list a person named Walter Palmer who legally killed a mule deer in the province in October 2006.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NEW MEXICO

Worker resigns after call

A teenager who called police but was told by a dispatcher to "deal with it yourself" before being hung up on said Wednesday she was panicked about a friend being shot, but stayed as calm as possible.

Seventeen-year-old Esperanza Quintero told The Associated Press that she wished dispatcher Matthew Sanchez had done more to help after her friend Jaydon Chavez-Silver was shot in June. He later died.

"I don't understand how much more I could have stayed calm," Quintero said. "It was upsetting at the time but I didn't have a choice. What more could I have done?"

Quintero told KOAT-TV in Albuquerque that she tried to stop the 17-year-old Chavez-Silver from bleeding and gave him CPR.

In the recording, Quintero snaps at Sanchez for repeatedly asking whether Chavez-Silver is breathing.

Sanchez resigned Tuesday, a day after the recording of the call was released.

Fire Department spokeswoman Melissa Romero said Sanchez had dispatched an ambulance to the scene before he hung up and that it arrived less than five minutes after it was sent.

Sanchez was employed by the department for 10 years and was a firefighter before being assigned to a dispatcher job. It was unclear why the change was made or if he had any previous disciplinary actions against him.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Teacher pleads not guilty to sex with students

A teacher accused of having sex with students has pleaded not guilty.

Keavin Keith, 30, a teacher in Louisiana, was indicted earlier this month on 30 counts of prohibited sexual conduct between an educator and a student.

A local TV station reports that Keith entered a not guilty plea Wednesday.

Sheriff Brett Stassi Sr. says one of Keith's former students reported the two of them had a sexual relationship while she was still a student at a school, where he was a teacher.

Stassi says the investigation revealed Keith was allegedly having sexual relations with two other students, ages 15 and 16.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AFGHANISTAN

Taliban leader died 2 years ago: Agency

Afghanistan's main intelligence agency said Wednesday that the reclusive Taliban leader Mullah Mohammad Omar has been dead for more than two years.

The one-eyed, secretive head of the Taliban hosted Osama Bin Laden's al-Qaida in the years leading up to the Sept. 11 attacks and then waged a decade-long insurgency against U.S. troops after the 2001 invasion that ended Taliban rule.

He has not been seen in public since fleeing the invasion over the border into Pakistan.

Abdul Hassib Sediqi, the spokesman for Afghanistan's National Directorate of Security, said Mullah Omar died in a hospital in the Pakistani city of Karachi in April 2013.

"We confirm officially that he is dead," he told The Associated Press.

It was not immediately clear why his death was only being announced now.

A former Taliban minister who was once close to Mullah Omar said he had died of tuberculosis and was "buried somewhere near the border on the Afghan side." He spoke on condition of anonymity so as not to jeopardize his standing with the Taliban, who do not want individual members to speak to the media.

A Pakistani security official, also speaking on condition he not be named, had earlier dismissed rumours of Mullah Omar's death as "speculation" designed to disrupt peace talks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Yahoo Livetext app aims to make video chat private

Imagine making a video call without other people being able to listen in. Yahoo is trying to make that happen with Livetext, a new app that seeks to make video calling as private as texting. Yahoo says video calls can be better than texts for expressing emotions. The app will be released Thursday in the U.S., Canada, Germany, France and the U.K. for Apple and Android devices. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Global markets still fragile: IMF

FINANCE

Chief says economies are recovering but face risks

International Monetary Fund (IMF) chief Christine Lagarde says the world economy is recovering, but fragile, and "faces some downside risks."

In an online news conference Wednesday, Lagarde described the United States as "a strong performer" and China as "resilient" despite a recent drop in Chinese stock prices.

She also expressed optimism for the 19 countries that use the euro. The IMF expects the eurozone economy to grow 1.5 per cent this year and 1.7 per cent in 2016; it expanded just 0.8 per cent in 2014.

"The euro area is beginning to turn the corner.... We have a more upbeat forecast than we have in a long time," she said.

IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde speaks during a news conference in April. On Wednesday, Lagarde predicted growth in China and the EU. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Lagarde noted that a drop in worldwide commodity prices is likely to hurt emerging market economies. And the global economy could face fallout if the Federal Reserve raises short-term U.S. interest rates, which it has kept near zero since late 2008. Fed Chair Janet Yellen has said a rate increase is likely this year. Lagarde has urged the Fed to delay the rate hike until 2016, citing the global economy's fragility.

Lagarde shrugged off a recent selloff in Chinese stocks, noting China's shares are still 80 per cent higher than a year ago.

The IMF expects the Chinese economy to grow 6.8 per cent this year, fast by global standards but the slowest for China since 1990. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VERTICALSCOPE

Torstar buys 56% stake in digital-media firm

Torstar Corp. is tapping into the world of niche online forums by picking up a stake in VerticalScope Holdings Inc., a Canadian company that serves the appetites of car fanatics and offers tips to pet lovers.

The publisher of the Toronto Star, which ditched its Harlequin romance novel business last year for $455 million, is spending $200 million for a 56 per cent stake in the company.

"We've been assessing opportunities to employ capital that resulted from the Harlequin sale for over a year now," chief executive David Holland told analysts on Wednesday as Torstar reported a quarterly loss.

"It's an important step forward in the transformation of Torstar, positioning the company for growth in its more digitally oriented future."

VerticalScope is based in Toronto and has about 130 employees. THE CANADIAN PRESS

REAL ESTATE

Breaking Bad home on the market for $1.6M

Two houses featured on the hit AMC-TV series Breaking Bad are up for sale in Albuquerque.

A mother-daughter realty team said this week they are helping sell the home where the fictitious Jesse Pinkman made methamphetamine on the hit show. The house in Albuquerque's Country Club area is listed for $1.6 million.

Susan C. Feil and Alicia Feil Peterson of Coldwell Banker Legacy also listed another house that appeared in the series finale in Albuquerque's North Valley.

Breaking Bad follows former high school teacher Walter White, played by Bryan Cranston, producing methamphetamine with a former student, Jesse Pinkman, played by Aaron Paul. The series ended in 2013. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Thursday, July 30, 2015

URBAN ETIQUETTE: ELLEN VANSTONE ON PEEING IN PUBLIC

THE QUESTION

In my country, men's urinals have privacy barriers, but in Canada there are none and I suffer performance anxiety in the washroom. What is your advice?

Dear Ellen,

In my country, men's urinals have privacy barriers, but in Canada, there are none and I suffer performance anxiety in the washroom when I'm trying to urinate. What is your advice?

F.X.

Dear F.X.

I am not familiar with the etiquette of men's washrooms, so I've never heard of this problem. I can tell you that many women are irritated by the lack of stalls in many public venues, which means we have to spend most of our time during intermissions at movies and concerts, and between innings or quarters at sporting events, lining up to wait for a stall — but at least we do have privacy when we finally get into one. So I heartily sympathize with your problem.

I have consulted a male friend from L.A. about this, and he says he's had the same problem. According to him, most washrooms in the U.S. have privacy barriers, except for the urinal at Dodger Stadium, which he describes as basically a "trough."

But when he's in Canada, even when his bladder is bursting, he can't "go" when there are men on either side of him. The thought that they are "checking him out" when he's trying to relieve himself makes it impossible for him to proceed with the business at hand.

His solution is to take out his phone and read his emails, which takes his mind off the men to his left and right. Then he's fine to do what he needs to do. I'm not sure this would work for everyone, but I'm not sure what else to suggest. If other male readers have encountered this problem and have any suggestions, I'd love to hear them.

While we're on the topic, I may as well put in a word about the stupidity of equipping public washrooms with cheap toilet paper. Just the other day, I was in a ladies' room where another woman was in a stall, cursing and hurling small bits of toilet paper on the floor, because it kept ripping off in little pieces every time she tried to pull off a few squares from the humungous but unmovable role of tissue in the dispenser.

I commiserated with her, and we discussed what a perfect example this was of false economy. Presumably the management bought cheap toilet paper to save money, but since management types are not the people who have to pick up millions of little bits of toilet paper off the floor, perhaps they don't realize how much is wasted.

As for women who "hover" over the toilet seat in order to avoid touching it, fair enough. But if you're going to spray all over the seat, it's only polite to wipe it afterwards, in consideration of the next person.

And I hope I don't have to tell anyone, male or female, to wash their hands afterward, right?

Need advice?
Email Ellen
scene@metronews.ca

THE MICROTREND: One more blow to Ebola

Though Ebola hysteria has blown over, the West African outbreak still has not. But this week saw some good news: The World Health Organization reported only seven new infections, the lowest in more than a year. But don't schedule a goodbye party just yet — the WHO was careful to say about 2,000 people who have been exposed to Ebola in the last 21 days are still walking around in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone — the crisis could reignite any time. SOURCE: WHO

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Here's hoping we're seeing changes to the military's culture

This is it.

Canada's military leadership has the chance to prove that it will spare no one in the fight to rid the forces of sexual misconduct.

The signs so far are hopeful.

A high ranking, "up-and-coming" officer — Lt.-Col. Mason Stalker — is facing 10 sex-related charges after a male victim came forward to military police in April.

The allegations stem from Stalker's time as a cadet volunteer in Edmonton between 1998 and 2007.

Stalker will be tried in civilian court and that, says lawyer Michel Drapeau, is a significant move, given the military typically tries the cases internally. Drapeau, who has represented military sexual assault victims, said he now expects civilian trials will be the norm. (A Canadian Forces spokeswoman said military investigators will make that decision on a case-by-case basis). Civilian trials would be a critical improvement, given widespread condemnation of the military's handling of sexual-misconduct allegations, as detailed in the damning report by retired Supreme Court Justice Marie Deschamps, released earlier this year.

The Deschamps report identified a shocking lack of justice amid a culture of "endemic" sexual misconduct — a culture vividly illustrated by former chief of defence staff Gen. Tom Lawson last month when he blamed the problem on biological wiring.

Despite the fact civilian courts have taken over Stalker's case, the military is — rightly — continuing to investigate. So I hope it will answer a few pressing questions for me: Did others in the military know about the alleged assaults? If so, what did they do with that information?

The military will be judged not just for catching a single big fish, but also by its efforts to smoke out low-level players — those who witnessed, overheard, or otherwise knew about allegations — and punish them.

There will be no cleansing of the military's sexually-poisoned culture until it targets those who look the other way.

Last week, the new top soldier, Gen. Jonathan Vance, foreshadowed the Stalker charges, promising "changes and announcements in the near future" to show he's serious about tackling sexual assault.

I expect, then, not to wait much longer for the results of an ongoing military investigation into an alleged sexual assault at the prestigious Royal Military College in Kingston, Ont., which has already taken more than two months.

Here's hoping we're seeing the beginning of deep changes. They can't come quickly enough.

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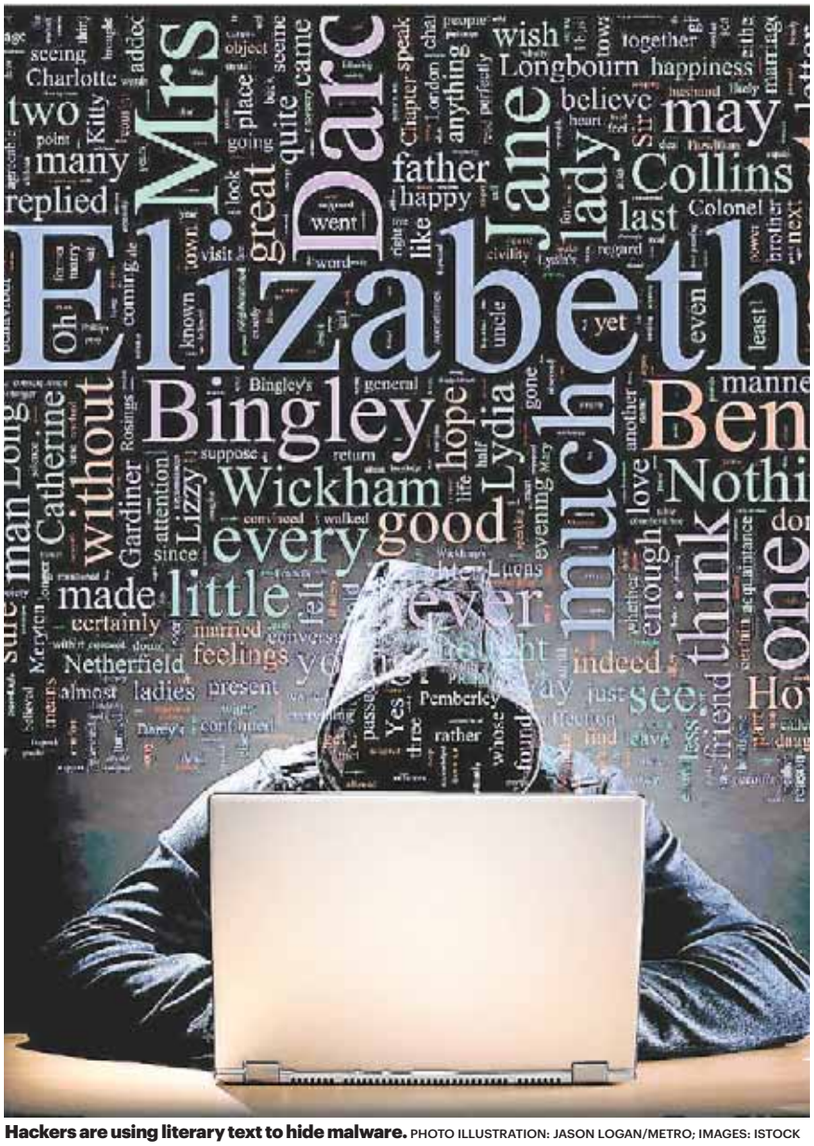
Chris Pine to star as the love interest to Gal Gadot's Wonder Woman

Sense and hackability



Hackers are using literary text to hide malware. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: JASON LOGAN/METRO; IMAGES: ISTOCK

19TH CENTURY CODE

Malware takes a page (literally) from a Jane Austen novel

It would be a shock, a terrible shock, to Elinor Dashwood and the other characters in Sense and Sensibility, to see this happening.

Unbeknownst to her or author Jane Austen, it seems that hackers from the 21st century are appropriating text from the 19th-century classic novel to spread malicious software.

Researchers from Cisco Security said in a report released Tuesday that literary passages are becoming a new way to hide malicious code that allows hackers unlawful entry into computers and networks.

"Adding passages of classic text to an exploit kit landing page is a more effective obfuscation technique than the traditional approach of using random text," said researchers in their mid-year security report.

"The use of text from more contemporary works such as magazines and blogs is another effective strategy. Antivirus and other security solutions are more likely to categorize the web page as legitimate after 'reading' such text."

Cisco researchers said encountering references to Austen characters on a web page "may be perplexing but not a cause for immediate concern."

Jason Brvenik, a Cisco engineer, said it remains a mystery about who is behind the literary hacking or why that novel was chosen over others.

"It is a seemingly random selection but it always from that book," he said.

Still, the technique opens the door for dastardly exploits from computer hackers, according to Cisco.

Hackers can deliver a variety of malicious "payloads" through these tools, according to Cisco, including "ransomware," a growing technique that locks a user's files unless a ransom is paid.

The researchers said this is just one example about how hackers are innovating to find ways around computer protection.

"Hackers, being unencumbered, have the upper hand in agility, innovation and brazenness," Brvenik said.

"We see this time and again, whether it is nation-state actors, malware, exploit kits or ransomware." AFP

LITERARY SMACKDOWNS

Use every hack in the book
If Jane Austen-loving hackers had a malicious sense of humour, here's what their malware quotes would attack:

- **Snapchat** "Life seems but a quick succession of busy nothings." (Mansfield Park)
- **Twitter** "To flatter and follow others, without being flattered and followed in turn, is but a state of half enjoyment." (Persuasion)
- **iTunes** "Without music, life would be a blank to me." (Emma)
- **Tinder** "She is tolerable, but not handsome enough to tempt me." (Pride and Prejudice)
- **Facebook** "I will not torment myself any longer by remaining among friends whose society it is impossible to enjoy." (Sense and Sensibility)
- **Humblebrags** "Nothing is more deceitful than the appearance of humility. It is often only carelessness of opinion, and sometimes an indirect boast." (Pride and Prejudice)

HENRIETTA WALMARK/METRO

HISTORICAL FICTION

Author feels instant connection with adventurous new subject

Emily Laurence
Metro in New York

People are always telling author Paula McLain who to write about next. "I'll be at Target and (someone) will say, 'Oh James Joyce had a crazy wife. You should write about that!'" says McLain, whose first book The Paris Wife, a historical fiction about Ernest Hemingway's wife became a New York Times best-seller.

Three years later, McLain is back with another historical fiction book, Circling The Sun, this time about Beryl Markham, a glamorous British expat living in 1920s Kenya, who had no shortage of adventures, and affairs.

An instant spark

"I had a million ideas about who to write about next, but for me, there has to be a mysterious, powerful, profound connection," McLain tells us.

"I felt that instantly with Beryl when I read her memoir West With The Night."

McLain had never heard of Markham, but she says the connection was immediate. "All the hairs on my arm just stood up and I thought, I don't know who this woman is, but I am going to write about her. That's it. It's done."

An unexpected connection

She discovered they had amazing connections, such as the fact their mothers had both abandoned them at the age of four and re-entered their lives when they were 20.

McLain says once she realized their common connections, the architecture of the book came together quickly.

"I knew I wanted to write about her early life as opposed to her later life because I was interested in how she got the way she was," McLain says of her subject.

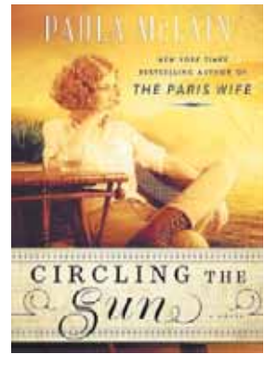
"Gossip followed Beryl her whole life. It's like, who didn't she sleep with? …

"I was compelled to psychoanalyze her based on some of my own psychology because we had this piece of the story."

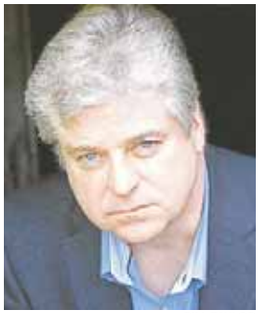
Trailblazer

Markham was indeed interesting, becoming the first woman licensed to be a professional racehorse trainer and the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic from East to West. She had countless affairs, including with a prince.

Markham loved Kenya — "It was truly her Eden," McLain tells us — but McLain resisted visiting Africa until after the book was written. "You can't really visit Kenya in 1917, except in your imagination," she says.



BROKEN PROMISE — AN EXCERPT IN FOUR PARTS BY LINWOOD BARCLAY



BILL TAYLOR

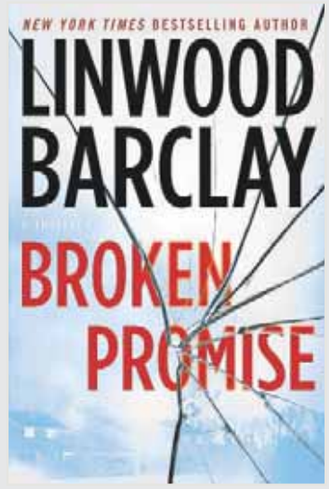
PART 4 OF 4

Something dark has infected Promise Falls
Bestselling thriller author Linwood Barclay returns this month with Broken Promise (Doubleday, July 28, $22.95) the first book in an explosive new trilogy.

Yesterday, we left David trying to find out how his cousin Marla ended up with a baby who clearly isn't her own. The more David listens to Marla's story of a stranger giving her the baby, the more concerned he becomes.

Excerpted from Broken Promise by Linwood Barclay. Copyright © 2015 Linwood Barclay. Published by Doubleday Canada, a division of Penguin Random House Canada Limited, a Penguin Random House Company. Reproduced by arrangement with the Publisher. All rights reserved.

I checked out the stroller. It was in the folded position. On the right handle were more bloody smudges that looked like the one I'd seen on the doorjamb



"We need to know who bore this child," I told Marla. "Like, medical history. You need to know about his real mother and father, what diseases or conditions they might have."

"Why don't you want me to be happy, David?" Marla asked. "Don't you think, after all I've been through, I deserve some happiness?"

I didn't know what to say, but it turned out I didn't have to come up with something. Marla said, "I'm going to freshen up. Now that you're here, I can have a shower, put on some clean clothes. I was thinking Matthew and I would go out and get a few things."

"The stroller, behind the door," I said. "Did you buy that yesterday?"

"No, the angel brought that," she said, and slipped into the bathroom and closed the door.

I checked out the stroller. It was in the folded position. On the right handle were more bloody smudges that looked like the one I'd seen on the doorjamb.

I opened up the contraption and found stale, dry Cheerios, three rattles, a small wooden car with thick wooden wheels, and a flyer for a store that sold baby supplies. On the flyer was an address for Rosemary Gaynor, of 375 Breckonwood Drive.

I got out my cell, tapped on the app that would allow me to find a number for the Gaynor household. But once I had it under my thumb, I considered whether making the call was the smartest thing to do.

Maybe it made more sense to go over there. Right now. I heard water running in the bathroom. The shower. The phone still in my hand, I called home.

It picked up on the first ring. "Yeah?"

"Dad, I need to talk to Mom."

"What's up?"

"Just put her on."

A fumbling sound, a muted "He wants to talk to you." And then: "What is it, David?"

"Something's happened here at Marla's Mom, there's a baby here."

"What?"

"She's got a baby. She says it's hers. She says some woman came to the door and just gave it to her. But the story, it's just not holding water. Mom, I'm starting to wonder ... I hate to say this, but I'm wondering — God, this sounds totally crazy — but I'm wondering if she snatched this kid from someone."

"Oh, no," Mom said. "Not again."

HARPER LEE BESTSELLER

Watchman sales drop

Sales dropped sharply for Harper Lee's Go Set a Watchman in its second week of publication. But it remained the bestselling book in the United States for the week ending July 26, according to Nielsen BookScan. On Wednesday, Nielsen reported sales of 220,000 for Watchman, less than a third of Nielsen's total for the novel's first week on sale.

Publisher HarperCollins announced last week that Watchman panned by many critics, had already sold around 1.1 million copies in North American alone.

1.1 M

The number of copies of Go Set a Watchman already sold in North America

The total includes ebooks, audiobooks and pre-orders for Watchman, which topped bestseller lists soon after HarperCollins revealed in February that a second novel was coming from the author of To Kill a Mockingbird. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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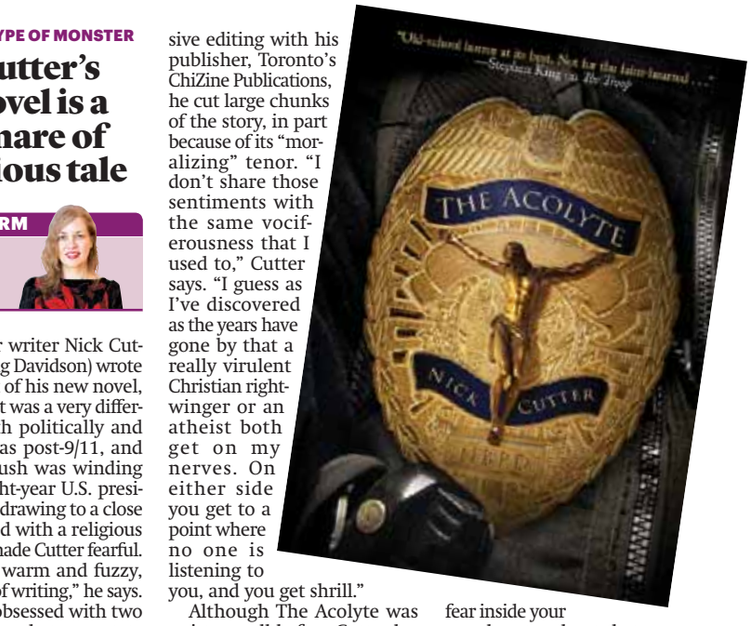
Trading horror for extremism

DIFFERENT TYPE OF MONSTER

Nick Cutter's new novel is a nightmare of a religious tale

BOOKWORM
Sue Carter



When horror writer Nick Cutter (a.k.a. Craig Davidson) wrote the first draft of his new novel, The Acolyte, it was a very different time both politically and socially. It was post-9/11, and George W. Bush was winding down his eight-year U.S. presidential term, drawing to a close an era marked with a religious fervour that made Cutter fearful.

"It's not a warm and fuzzy, cuddly piece of writing," he says. "I got really obsessed with two close bedfellows between state and religion. I had nightmares about it."

Those bad dreams translated into The Acolyte, a taut dystopian thriller about a cop named Jonah Murtag, tasked with eliminating unauthorized religious faiths in New Bethlehem, a world where the Old Testament rules, and cities fall under the leadership of "Prophets." After witnessing a suicide bomber blast the local Prophet's daughter on stage at a concert, Murtag begins to realize that not all is as it seems.

Cutter estimates that his first manuscript clocked in at a hefty 180,000 words. During intensive editing with his publisher, Toronto's ChiZine Publications, he cut large chunks of the story, in part because of its "moralizing" tenor. "I don't share those sentiments with the same vociferousness that I used to," Cutter says. "I guess as I've discovered as the years have gone by that a really virulent Christian right-winger or an atheist both get on my nerves. On either side you get to a point where no one is listening to you, and you get shrill."

Although The Acolyte was written well before Cutter became a Canadian horror favourite, fans will recognize the signature violence and quick-witted dialogue of his previous two published books — The Troop, the Stephen King-praised novel in which camping boy scouts meet up with a grotesque killer tapeworm, and The Deep, a claustrophobic mind-trip set in an underwater science station — grounded by personal, human emotions.

"The way I write horror is that you isolate a few fears that you feel quite profoundly about, and the goal is to try to translate that fear to your readers," Cutter says. "You have to find the fear inside your own heart and put that on the page."

While Cutter's monsters are not for the squeamish or faint of heart, they exist in a fantasy, whereas the religious extremism and dogma in The Acolyte at times seems a little too close to the evening news.

So, did he ever worry about writing about religion — a touchy subject at the best of times?

"I never worried too much about the idea of going too far, which in the end can be your Achilles heel as a writer, in that you never know when to break and pull back and approach things less recklessly," he says. "But I did write an afterword for the book. I don't know if it's maturity, but as I get older, I don't want to hurt people's feelings or insult their beliefs."

"I've discovered as the years have gone by that a really virulent Christian right-winger or an atheist both get on my nerves
Nick Cutter, author of The Acolyte

Sue Carter is editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

LITERARY PRIZE

Jamaican first for Booker longlist

The Man Booker Prize for the best fiction novel revealed its longlist on Wednesday.

Entries must be written originally in English and published in the U.K., although 2015 marks the second year in the contest's 45-year history that it has been open to writers of any nationality. The shortlist will be announced Sept. 15, while the winner will be revealed Oct. 13.

The list, chosen from 156 entries and announced Wednesday, includes A Brief History of Seven Killings by Marlon James, the first Jamaica-born Booker contender.

Novels by Americans Anne Tyler and Marilynne Robinson are among 13 contenders.

Also selected are Ireland's Anne Enright for The Green Road, British writer Andrew O'Hagan's The Illuminations, the U.K.'s Tom McCarthy for Satin Island and Sunjeev Sahota, also of the U.K., for The Year of the Runaways.

Five American novels are on the list: Tyler's A Spool of Blue Thread, Robinson's Lila, Bill Clegg's Did You Ever Have a Family, Laila Lalami's The Moor's Account and Hanya Yanagihara's A Little Life.

Also on the longlist: Sleeping on Jupiter by India's Anuradha Roy, The Chimes by New Zealand writer Anna Smaill, and The Fishermen by Nigerian Chigozie Obioma. AFP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BIRKIN BAGS

Take my name off that croc!

British singer Jane Birkin has asked Hermes to take her name off the crocodile-skin versions of the iconic Birkin handbag, after being contacted by animal rights group PETA over "cruel" slaughtering practices.

A PETA video from June shows several reptiles at a Texas farm that supplies crocodile skins to Hermes left twitching in a bloody ice container to die after being shot with a captive bolt gun and cut with a knife.

Birkin said in a statement obtained Wednesday that she was "alerted to the cruel practices ... to make Hermes handbags carrying my name" and has "asked Hermes to de-baptize the Birkin Croco until better practices in line with international norms can be put in place."

The Birkin bag was created in 1984 by Hermes in honour of the famed singer and ex-girlfriend of Serge Gainsbourg, and is, still today, one of the world's most exclusive luxury items. The bag is beloved by stars such as Victoria Beckham and comes in calf, ostrich, lizard as well as crocodile. It can cost between $10,000 and $100,000, with waiting lists to buy famously stretching into the years.

PETA said it takes three crocodile belly skins to make one handbag.

No publicly listed phone number for Lone Star Alligator Farms in Winnie, Texas, about 80 kilometres east of Houston, could immediately be located Wednesday.

Contacted by The Associated Press, Hermes said it "respects and shares (Birkin's) emotions" and was "shocked by the images recently broadcast."

An investigation, it says, is underway. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jane Birkin tells Hermes to take her name off the iconic Birkin bag. GETTY

Women share what's written on the body

SOCIAL MEDIA

#Thighreading the latest body-positive selfie trend

If you've got lines on your thighs that would never in a million years see the light of Instagram then it's time to reassess, because "#thighreading" is the latest beauty statement to hit social media.

The hashtag was started on Twitter earlier this month by student @princess_labia, who shared a photo of the stretch marks gracing her thighs with her 10,000 followers.

The accompanying caption "palm readings <<<< thigh readings" struck a chord with the Internet and the hashtag #thighreading had soon made the transition to Instagram.

"There are so many faces and body types and features that girls never get to see reflected back at them," the student told Elite Daily. "Girls have tweeted back at me that they had no idea so many women have stretch marks, and that's so sad, right?

"Something that is as normal, common and beautiful as stretch marks is something we've been taught to be ashamed of, to be alone with."

The body-positive trend has seen Instagram users such as @miss_london posting pictures of their stretch marks or other 'imperfections' alongside inspiring hashtags such as #storyofmybody, #confidence and #stillbeautiful. One user @bethoneyy posted the message: "I have cellulite and stretch marks but that doesn't mean I'm not "normal" or beautiful!", while @cassidyparkes captioned her photo "Big thighs save lives."

Thigh reading is the latest social media campaign to focus on positive body image for women this year. It follows the success this spring of the Instagram account @Loveyourlines, launched to promote "real women, real bodies and real self love" and comes after various celebrities got real about their imperfections, with supermodel Chrissy Teigen posting one memorable shot of her legs captioned: "Stretchies say hi!" AFP

Women have taken to Twitter to share images of their thighs in the latest body positive trend. @MISS_LONDON_/INSTAGRAM

> **"Something that is as normal, common and beautiful as stretch marks is something we've been taught to be ashamed of, to be alone with**
> @princess_labia

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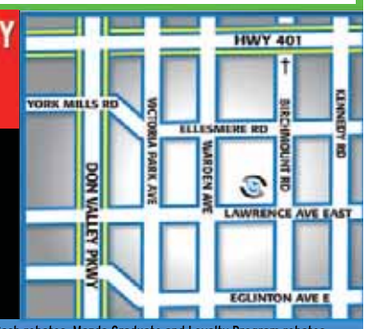

†0% APR Purchase Financing is available on select new 2015 Mazda models. §Cash rebates, Mazda Graduate and Loyalty Program rebates vary by term and model. See dealer for details. Offer available on retail leases of new 2015 Mazda 3 GX (D4XK65AA00) with a lease APR of 1.49% and 104 bi-weekly payments of $79 for 48 months, the total lease obligation is $8,917, including down payment (or equivalent trade-in) of $649. Offer excludes HST. Offers include freight and P.D.E of $1,695, $5 OMVIC fee (all models), $23.75 Tire Stewardship fee (all models), and $100 Air Conditioning charge (where applicable). 20,000 km per year mileage allowance applies; if exceeded, additional 8¢ per km applies (12¢ per km for CX-9 models). Offers valid from July 1 - 31, 2015,while supplies last. Offers subject to change without notice.

AWKWARD

Hammer didn't know he was nude

Armie Hammer

The joys of young parenthood can sometimes cloud your judgment, as The Man from U.N.C.L.E. star Armie Hammer learned.

"I found out today that I have nude pictures on my phone," he tells Jimmy Kimmel. The revelation came after discussing his 8-month-old daughter with a hairstylist. "The lady said, 'Do you have any pictures of your daughter?' I said, 'Of course! I've got tons of pictures!'" he explains. "I'm going through my phone ... and I get to pictures where ... she's kind of lounging on the sink and she looks like she's having the time of her life. I'm showing her these pictures and I'm like, 'Look at how cute she is! We're in the bathroom. She's just right in the bathtub.' And after showing her these pictures for about 30 seconds I realize that I'm standing fully nude in the mirror of this bathroom as I'm showing her these pictures. As quickly and casually as possible, I went, 'Anyway, you get the picture!'" NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

Affleck denies dating the nanny

According to US Weekly, Ben Affleck is dating his kids' nanny. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

RELATIONSHIPS

Who doesn't love a good divorce cliché? Garner, for one

Ned Ehrbar

Here's a classic: Ben Affleck is reportedly following up his split from Jennifer Garner by shacking up with … his kids' nanny, Christine Ouzounian, according to Us Weekly.

Come on, Ben. That's just tacky. Have you learned nothing from Jude Law?

Anyway, Ouzounian stared working for Affleck and Garner during the couple's alleged secret 10-month trial separation, and sparks just kind of started flying. As they do. "They would hang out without the kids, and they were very flirty," a source says. "She says Ben really, really likes her. She's saying this is true love." Of course she is.

Because a grumpy movie star just out of a 10-year marriage is what relationship stability is made of.

Garner, as you might imagine, was not so pleased when she reportedly found out about their extracurricular dealings and promptly fired the Arizona State University grad.

But spell-check defier Ouzounian has still been in text and email contact with Affleck and even spent some time at his newly minted L.A. bachelor pad earlier this month. So there.

Affleck, for his part, is having none of this nanny-dating story.

His rep tells E! News that the "story is not true. It's tabloid journalism hiding behind blind sources. It's a shameful ploy to stay relevant for the magazine. We are considering legal options." Oh snap.

BERRY ON THE BRINK, TATUM'S GAMBIT

Is Halle Berry's marriage on the rocks?

The latest contestant on Hollywood Wedding Ring watch is apparently Halle Berry, who is getting attention this week for showing up for some child-minding duties sans gold band.

And sorrowful sources tell Radar Online that the omission was no mere oversight.

"It seems Halle and (husband) Olivier (Martinez) have finally hit the end of the road," a source says.

NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

Channing Tatum looking to get out of Gambit

There's potential trouble in superhero land, as Channing Tatum is reportedly eyeing a swift exit from Fox's stand-alone film Gambit, about the fan-favourite Cajun mutant, according to the Wrap.

Tatum's reps are said to be in active discussions with the studio, but "something is up." Tatum is also involved with the project as a producer, and it's unclear if he'll stay on in that capacity should he bow out of starring.

The film is set to be released in October 2016, and Tatum appeared earlier this month at Comic-Con to hype it.

NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

BEEF

Drake slugs Meek Mill with diss track, Joe Carter pic

Touch 'em all, Drake.

The Toronto rapper invoked beloved ex-Blue Jays slugger Joe Carter with his latest shot in his ongoing feud with rapper Meek Mill. The Grammy winner issued Back to Back overnight, accompanied by a photo of Carter's triumphant trot following his World Series-winning walk-off home run in 1993. Of course, Toronto's opponent that year was Philadelphia — Mill's home town. After Charged Up, it's Drake's second lyrical response to Mill, who alleged on Twitter recently that Drake doesn't write his own rhymes. On Back to Back, the 28-year-old Drake takes several shots at Mill's relationship to rap titan Nicki Minaj, a longtime cohort of Drake's whom Mill is currently supporting on tour.

Drake

"You love her, then you gotta give the world to her," Drake raps. "Is that a world tour or your girl's tour?" Minaj performed in Toronto on Tuesday and allowed Mill to make a cameo appearance during her headlining set. Several fan-shot videos depict Mill being heartily booed by the partisan Toronto crowd.

Posted early Wednesday morning, Drake's freestyle seems to reference the fresh incident.

"I mean, whoa, can't fool the city man, they know what's up."

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metro HOME

Your essential daily news

The smartphone pocket in Ikea's Sittning placemat reminds you to power down during mealtime

Living on the water's edge

NEW PROJECTS

From west to east, lakefront seeing plenty of development

CONDO TRENDS

Duncan McAllister

Summer is the time for fun in the sun, and what better way to enjoy the surf and sand than from your own waterfront condominium.

Part of Waterfront Toronto's massive revitalization initiative, the East Bayfront projects will transform an underutilized and quasi-industrial stretch of land along Queen's Quay, east of Jarvis Street. Tridel's Aquavista and Aqualina at Bayside condominiums are already underway at the foot of Parliament Street.

East Bayfront is the eastward extension of the recent revitalization of the water's edge that includes Corus Quay, Sugar Beach, Sherbourne Common and the new George Brown College campus.

Plans were unveiled at a ceremony in March, marking the kickoff of the Daniels Waterfront — City of the Arts, a groundbreaking new community with a projected total cost of $700M. Occupying the site of the former Guvernment nightclub, the mixed-use development promises to be the gateway to Toronto's East Bayfront district.

Dominic Tompa is the president of City Life Realty, a Daniels subsidiary. "What's unique about where we are is that we really act as a connector between the city core and the East Bayfront," he says. "You've got access to the city that's already very well established."

Tompa says there are plans to extend Sugar Beach north along one side of the property. They've retained architect Claude Cormier, who designed the original Sugar Beach, "to have some continuity of what Sugar Beach looks like with the unique umbrellas, continued on the north side."

On the opposite side of the downtown is the Humber Bay Shores district where the Humber River meets the lake. This is an area undergoing rapid intensification — a veritable city of condos stretching along the water's edge south of the Lake Shore.

Monarch Mattamy Homes has been an active player in this arena. Their latest projects, the 49-storey Lago residential tower, and Riva del Lago, a new midrise condo and townhouse development, are both currently under construction.

"Monarch has so many buildings on the waterfront that we've got a real history there." says Linda Robinson, highrise division VP at Monarch Mattamy.

"Riva Del Lago is 16 storeys and it's a front building, so it's right on the waterfront."

Much has transpired since Metro last reported on the area, as Marine Parade Drive is on track to becoming a waterfront boulevard with walking and biking trails, restaurants and sailing clubs.

"It really is a lifestyle," remarks Robinson.

Two new Tridel condominiums at East Bayside, Aqualina to the left and the U-shaped Aquavista on the right. COURTESY TRIDEL

> **"You've got access to the city that's already very well established.**
>
> Dominic Tompa of City Life Realty, on the Daniels Waterfront — City of the Arts mixed-use development

Top: Daniels is bringing back architect Claude Cormier to design Sugar Beach North, part of the Daniels Waterfront — City of the Arts project. Bottom: The Yard, a pedestrian laneway linking Jarvis and Richardson streets between two commercial buildings, will feature restaurants, cafés and stores. COURTESY DANIELS

The Lago condo tower on the left and Riva del Lago in the right foreground, two new condo projects by Monarch Mattamy Homes on the Humber Bay Shores. COURTESY MONARCH MATTAMY

ADVICE

Holmes on what to ask, how to hire when buying a home

Mike Holmes, famous for calling out bad plumbing, carpentry and electrical work on the HGTV show Holmes on Homes, says there are steps homebuyers can take to avoid many of those problems.

Holmes has a new reality show on Fox called Home Free, in which nine couples are challenged each week to restore a run-down home in Atlanta. They must live on the job site and follow Holmes' no-nonsense instruction. Couples whose work isn't up to code are gradually eliminated, and the last remaining couple wins a home.

Here, Holmes offers some advice for people looking to buy a home:

What's the biggest mistake people make when looking to buy a home?

We buy based on illusion. We don't buy with intelligence. We trust a real estate agent that we don't even know. More than anything, we buy by what we see. "Oh my God, it's got new paint. Look at the curb appeal." I'm trying to impress on people that you need to do as much homework as possible.

Take me through a typical scenario of someone buying a home.

Take a couple we'll call Mary and Joe. They decide to buy a house and they get excited ... start looking on the Internet, they start driving around and picking a property, and then they look for a real estate agent. And when they pick the house they want, then they start looking for a home inspector. If you plan on buying a property, you should look for a real estate agent first. Find the best real estate agent on the market. Before you start looking at a house, find the best home inspector there is.

How do you find the right real estate agent or home inspector?

Ask, "How long have you been in the business? What areas have you worked in? How many houses have you sold?" In other words, you start by asking a ton of questions. (And) call the references.... To a home inspector, ask, "How long have you been in the business? Did you do construction before you did inspection?" THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Professional contractor Mike Holmes has a new show called Home Free airing Wednesdays on Fox. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CONTRIBUTED

Cabin in the city

Project overview

Curated Properties introduces Cabin to Dovercourt in Toronto's eclectic West Queen West neighbourhood. The boutique condo project boasts spacious, two-level suites with outdoor spaces, residing in a vibrant and hip urban locale.

Building amenities

Each unit is complete with a wide-span balcony, terrace or rooftop. Kitchens are outfitted with full-sized appliances, discreet matte wood laminate, transitioning into the bathrooms, and corresponding porcelain wood sheet tile along the walls.

Location and transit

Cabin is situated in a prime location for transit, with the 24-hour, 501 Queen streetcar and the 504 King streetcar nearby, and less than 20 minutes walking from the Exhibition GO station. Motorists are within a few minutes of the Gardiner Expressway.

In the neighbourhood

The popular Queen Street West and Liberty Village communities are home to the Drake Hotel, the 99 Sudbury boutique fitness studio, Bolt Fresh Bar, the newly launched Bar Fancy, and Ossington's renowned row of restaurants and eateries.

NEED TO KNOW

What: Cabin
Builder: Curated Properties
Architect: RAW
Interiors: Mason Studio
Location: 45 Dovercourt Rd.
Building: 25 two-level suites in a six-storey building
Sizes: From 749 to 1,444 sq. ft.
Pricing: Starting from $499,900
Suites: One bedroom, one bedroom plus den, two bedroom, three bedroom
Status: Pre-construction, registration phase
Sales centre: Opening this September at 45 Dovercourt Rd.
Phone: 416-897-5480
Website: cabintoronto.com
Email: paul@pauljohnston.com

ADVICE

To buy or not to buy raises ire

LEGAL MATTERS

Jeffrey Cowan

I signed an agreement of purchase and sale for the sale of my home. We are downsizing and our kids are off on their own, so we don't need all the space we have. The purchaser was somewhat reluctant but ended up signing the agreement and it was a firm purchase (no conditions). Four weeks after we were all signed up and still quite a bit of time before the final closing, our lawyer received a call from the purchaser's lawyer saying that his client had buyer's remorse and would like to get out of the deal. We worked back and forth considering the amount of penalty that would be applicable and when we finally made him an offer he came back finally stating that he wanted to close the transaction (the cost to walk away was too high).

We were left with a really bad taste in our mouth and had spent four weeks totally unsure of our future. Can this guy do this and get away with it?

A: I am assuming that none of this was put in writing by the purchaser lawyer. If he had stated in writing that his client didn't want the house, then you could have claimed anticipatory breach of the contract and proceeded to pursue your legal remedies. Because the entire back-and-forth was unwritten (everything with respect to real estate must be in writing), you can't claim the breach of contract and you have to proceed with the transaction.

Please remember that I hope you were happy with the original contract and that you still have a new chapter in your lives as empty nesters.

The sustainable way

Bryan Tuckey

One of the most environmentally sustainable communities in the GTA is in the town of Newmarket and 185 families will be moving in this fall.

The water-conscious and energy-saving community is called The Vales of Glenway and it is raising the bar for innovation and overall environmental performance and sustainability for new homes.

BILD members Bazil Developments Inc. and Mosaik Homes are transforming what was a 30-acre farm into a community featuring innovative technology and building techniques that have received nods from local, regional and conservation authority officials.

Bazil principal Paul Bailey says they didn't set out to be an example, but rose to the challenge presented by town officials as part of a pilot project aimed at speeding up approvals for low-impact development.

The project team included staff from the Town, York Region, Lake Simcoe and Toronto Region Conservation Authorities, and everyone worked together to find innovative ways to conserve energy and water inside the homes and throughout the neighbourhood. The project has since been recognized by the Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority as a model of environmental sustainability and presented Paul with a Conservation Award of Merit in 2013 for his leadership.

For indoor water and energy conservation every Vales of Glenway home is designed to exceed Ontario Building Code requirements by at least 25 per cent. The homes will be outfitted with newly designed low-flow toilets, EnergyStar appliances, water-saving whole-home furnace-mount humidifiers, additional insulation and more. The team is also working to reduce the phosphorus that is going into Lake Simcoe by using bioswales and rain gardens, which will look like nice landscaping but will capture roof rain runoff and eliminate the need for storm sewers.

When the community at the corner of Bathurst Street and Davis Drive is complete, it will be the first of its kind within the Lake Simcoe watershed to use these water and energy conservation measures, according to the Conservation Authority.

Across the GTA BILD members and community builders like Bazil, Mozaik and many others take the environment into account every day when making planning, design and construction decisions. For those who are pushing to have their teams to do things differently than they have in the past, they know that new homebuyers will reap the benefits and as a greater region, we all will, too.

25%

Every home in Newmarket's Vales of Glenway community is designed to exceed Ontario Building Code requirements by 25 per cent for indoor water and energy conservation

BRYAN TUCKEY IS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AND A LAND-USE PLANNER WHO HAS WORKED FOR MUNICIPAL, REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS. FOLLOW HIM ON TWITTER @BILDGTA, FACEBOOK.COM/BILDGTA, AND BILDBLOGS.CA.

REAL ESTATE

What's hot on the market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1 CABBAGETOWN

Open house: Here's a nice downtown lower penthouse at One Park West, overlooking the park. Head on over to 269 Sackville St., on July 30 from 5-7 p.m. or Aug. 1 and 2 from 2-4 p.m.
CONTACT: CHERI WILHELM, 416-922-5533

2 NORTH YORK

Now registering: Kenneth and Holmes, one- and two-level urban townhomes by Fieldgate Homes, located at Kenneth Avenue and Holmes Avenue in North York.
CONTACT: TOWNSONKENNETH.COM

3 ETOBICOKE

Open house: Two waterfront condo suites will be shown at the Humber Bay Shores district of Etobicoke. Check it out at 80 Marine Parade Dr., Aug. 1 and 2 from 2 to 4 p.m.
CONTACT: BETTE URSINI, 416-847-0920

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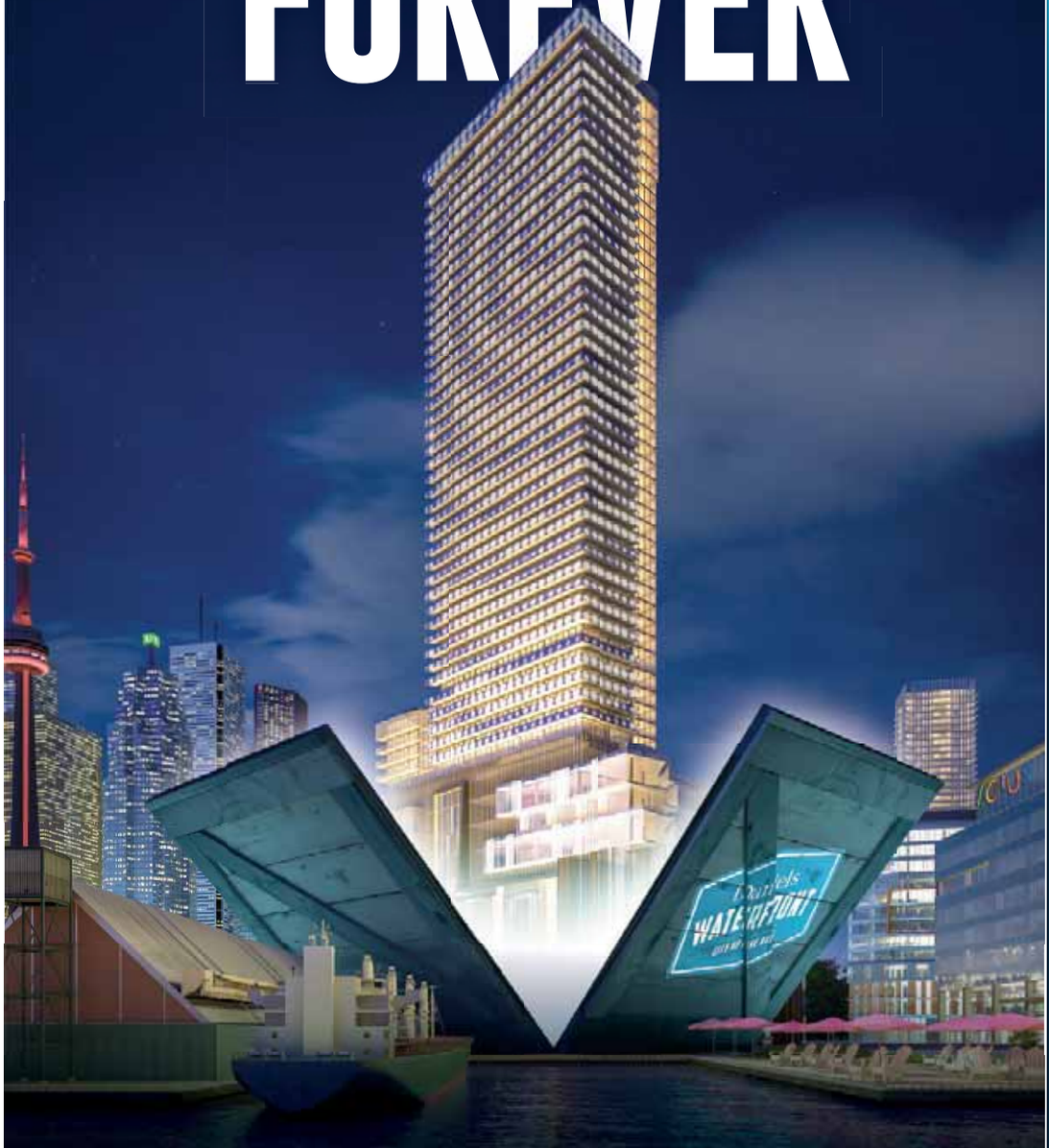

Daniels WATERFRONT
CITY OF THE ARTS

This fall, **The Daniels Corporation** will unveil **Lighthouse Tower** at **Daniels Waterfront – City of the Arts**, a master-planned, mixed-use community surrounded by creativity, inspired by arts and culture, and driven by innovation. This visionary gateway to the East Bayfront, where Lower Jarvis meets Queens Quay, will introduce a new era of living, offering residents panoramic lake and city views, exceptional amenities, luxurious suites, and endless conveniences at your doorstep, including Sugar Beach North, a beautiful promenade featuring retail and public art, linking to Canada's iconic sandy Sugar Beach to the south.

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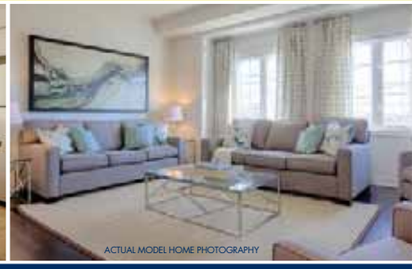
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Throw them some shade this season

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes

It's finally arrived — the summer heat is upon us and as much as we like to complain about it, I think most of us are secretly happy we've got some summer sun. With it comes the responsibility to protect our skin, so here are a few helpful shade sources.

1 ShelterLogic Sun Shade Sail
Create your own shade system from trees, flagpoles and balconies. Heavyweight 16-ft. square in lime, $108, Walmart.ca

2 Outdoor Window Sheer Curtains
Keep the sun off the porch; Velcro tabs make it easy to take them down and wash. $20, Lowes.ca

3 Balinese Umbrella
Create a royal affair under the sun. $350, Pier1.com

4 Auto-Lift Round Solar-Powered Umbrella
Opens and closes without the need of a crank while boasting solar lights; both controlled by a remote. Nine feet wide, $200, CanadianTire.ca

5 Total Sun Block Beach Shelter
Use while watching a soccer game or hanging out at the beach. $50, BedBathBeyond.ca

6 Bayside Octagon Panelized 12' Gazebo
Got room? Create your own shaded outdoor dining room ... or perhaps a performance stage. $5,900, HomeDepot.ca

WASTE REDUCTION

High-rise models a solution to waste crisis

Every year, Toronto residents put roughly one million tonnes of waste out for the city to collect. Just under half is disposed in landfill, and 53 per cent is diverted from landfill and sent for recycling or composting in the Blue Box and Green Bin.

The Toronto Environmental Alliance started wondering — why is the diversion rate so low?

Every few years, Toronto's Solid Waste department performs audits on residential waste, and TEA looks at its numbers. Its studies show 85 per cent of waste from the average household could be recycled, composted or otherwise diverted from disposal using existing Toronto waste programs.

Toronto has a full range of systems and programs to keep things out of landfill, from Green Bins to electronic waste collection, to a Toxic Taxi that picks up hazardous waste and a transfer station that dismantles mattresses for recycling. Residents learn about these programs from annual recycling calendars, an educational website, TTC ads, and a web-based tool called the Waste Wizard.

So why are we diverting only 53 per cent and not 85 per cent of our waste?

Too many recyclables in the garbage bag

Looking more closely at the city's numbers, TEA found that though most people use the Blue Bin and Green Bin, they're still throwing out recyclables and compostables in the garbage bound for landfill. In fact, there is more recyclable and compostable material in a garbage bag than actual garbage.

Among the half of Torontonians who live in apartments and condos, about 85 per cent of what they throw in the garbage shouldn't be there. That's mainly because most apartments and condos in Toronto still don't have Green Bins to collect their food waste.

But the picture isn't much better for people who have Green Bins and Blue Bins picked up at the curb. Roughly 70 per cent of what's in their garbage bins shouldn't be there.

So, what does this mean? If faithful users of the Blue and Green Bins are still getting it wrong, are they being asked too much? Is it unrealistic to push for higher diversion rates?

The answer, thankfully, is no, and there is an example right here in Toronto that proves it.

Waste diversion champions in apartments and condos

In the world of waste reduction, high-rise apartments and condos are an especially difficult nut to crack. High-rise buildings frequently have lower diversion rates than houses, and this is the same in Toronto. There are many theories why — from building design and easy access to garbage chutes, to lack of Green Bins, inadequate education and language barriers.

But, in the northern corner of Scarborough, a high-rise building in Malvern is showing that not only can high-rise buildings divert more of their waste, they can divert more than most houses. Mayfair on the Green, a 283-unit condo with more than 1,000 residents, is diverting over 80 per cent of its waste, putting out just one dumpster of garbage per month.

This isn't a flashy new green condo, showcasing the latest in sustainable technology. This is a typical Scarborough high-rise condo, 25 years old, with a single garbage chute. TEA staff and volunteers visited the building to find out what made this building so successful at reducing, reusing and recycling their waste, and the answer is refreshingly simple: dedicated staff and ongoing education.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

ONTARIO'S PATH TO FUTURE PROSPERITY

Every year in Ontario, more than nine million tonnes of valuable resources leak from our economy and this number has grown dramatically over the last two decades.

These resources are the waste created through our take, make and dispose pattern of consumption — a linear model that treats our resources and energy as limitless and disposal as inexpensive. According to Statistics Canada, every year Ontarians generate more than 12 million tonnes of garbage (enough to fill the Rogers Centre almost 16 times) with more than three-quarters of it sent to disposal.

This may be surprising to many as Ontario is the birthplace of the iconic Blue Box, an international recycling success story, which has been lauded by the United Nations. Residents pride themselves on sorting their recyclables every week and substantial progress has been made in this area.

However, despite some successes, Ontario's overall recycling rate has essentially flat-lined for the last two decades with a low recycling rate in the business sector being the primary contributor. Ontario, like many other jurisdictions around the world, increasingly understands that this linear economic model not only hurts the province's competitiveness but also its future prosperity.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

CHANGE IS POSSIBLE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

How 430 Mayfair on the Green got so green

Princely Soundranayagam has been the building's superintendent for more than 15 years. He saw a big opportunity to reduce waste using the city's existing diversion programs.

He also knew diversion actions had to be simple for residents to use them. With full support from the building manager, Ed Lynn, Princely began distributing flyers, and going door-to-door to talk with residents about new recycling and waste systems in the building.

The building's garbage chutes are now used exclusively to collect organics and food waste. Residents drop off recycling and garbage downstairs, where they can also recycle electronic waste, cooking oil and hazardous waste like cleaners, batteries and old paint.

Residents place old household goods, books and clothes they no longer want on a designated sharing shelf. If another resident hasn't taken it within a few weeks, the goods are donated to a charity.

The efforts have paid off: The building used to spend over $1,500 a month on waste collection, but their recent bills have been under $150, dropping the annual waste costs by thousands.

This success story is about more than just a few recycling signs and more bins, it's about creating a culture of waste reduction. Plentiful signs (in many languages) and regular feedback to residents ensures that everyone has the information they need. The staff practices what it preaches — the office and shared library are furnished with reused furniture, books and plants.

Building staff and residents are proud of what they've achieved — sharing the success (and the savings) is a key part of keeping the momentum up.

430 Mayfair on the Green is not the only high-rise building with higher diversion rates, but it is far ahead of the pack.

They've shown that people succeed in diverting waste when it's easy, when they see and understand the benefits, and when they have ongoing education and support to keep improving.

What does this mean for Toronto?

With a growing waste problem and dwindling landfill space, Toronto is developing a long-term waste strategy to determine what to do with waste over the next half century. Some think we need to look at expensive disposal technologies, such as burning our waste, or building another landfill.

The Mayfair on the Green example shows another option.

The good news is that Toronto already has the diversion programs to drastically reduce garbage, and to get on the path to 85 per cent diversion. What we need now is to learn from and share the success of buildings like Mayfair on the Green, which are showing that high diversion rates are within reach.

To read more about waste reduction in Toronto, visit torontoenvironment.org.

Superintendent Princely Soundranayagam shows where the building's Green Bin waste is collected from the organics chute. HOLLY THOMSON, TEA

Toronto Environmental Alliance (TEA) is a non-profit grassroots environmental organization with more than 50,000 supporters across Toronto. We advocate for a green, healthy and equitable city.

Thinking outside the Blue Box

In the early 1980s, Ontario launched the world-renowned Blue Box recycling program in Kitchener. Today it serves 95 per cent of the province's population; helps divert two million tonnes (37 per cent) of materials to recycling; generates 2,500 full-time jobs; and reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 5.5 million tonnes, which is equivalent to 1.2 million cars off the road.

While the performance of the Blue Box program can be celebrated, when looking at other jurisdictions' residential recycling rates, Sweden (49 per cent) and Germany (62 per cent) for example, it's easy to see that improvements can be made. And when residential and non-residential recycling rates are combined, Ontario has sat at 25 per cent for more than a decade.

Why do other places outperform Ontario? Landfill availability in Ontario and the U.S. is a cheap disposal option. Ontario has fewer regulations that require more reduction and recycling. Most importantly, while local governments encourage, support, and pay for recycling at home, there is little support or regulation directed to businesses and institutions.

Of the nine million tonnes of waste disposed of annually in Ontario, 3.2 millions tonnes (36 per cent) is generated by the residential sector (homes, condos, and apartments); 5.7 million tonnes (64 per cent) is generated by the non-residential sector (restaurants, office towers, hospitals, hotels etc.). Businesses only collect 13 per cent (900,000 tonnes) of the material they generate for recycling.

The disparity can be attributed to service. Municipalities use tax revenue to make infrastructure and program investments to collect and divert materials generated by homes. Motivated by their requirement to protect the environmental and human health, municipalities are responsible for cost and liability of disposal; generally do not want to invest in digging new landfills or building incinerators; and take pride in their recycling and composting service.

Conversely, businesses and institutions do not have subsidized recycling services, and have minimal regulatory requirements to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill. They have to individually manage their buildings and properties, typically seeking private service to support recycling or waste programs. Ontario has waste laws, but the language is vague, there are no minimum targets, and there is virtually no enforcement.

This presents an opportunity to tap into the resources currently being lost to disposal from the non-residential sector. How can Ontario improve?

Procure goods and services that support waste reduction

Every public and private organization buys goods and services. Gaining a better understanding of how purchasing affects waste reduction results presents opportunity for change. Buying products and packaging that is readily recyclable from a supplier or, better yet, requiring a supplier to take back the product and its package for recycling will incent more recyclable products to go to market and support the recycling industry.

Requirements and support

To achieve results, regulatory requirements that include minimum recycling rates and resources on how to improve are needed. Boosting the non-residential recycling rate to the same level as the Blue Box program could mean 2.3 million more tonnes recycled, which is equivalent to taking 1.5 million cars off the road in terms of greenhouse gas reduction.

Changing the economics

Landfill levies generally make it more costly to dispose of items than recycle them. Both Manitoba ($10/tonne) and Quebec ($20.69/tonne) have adopted this polluter pay principle. These funds are then dedicated to improve waste reduction and composting activities. If Ontario applied a $10 levy, it could make more than $50 million available for recycling infrastructure, programs, research, and market development.

Prevention

Banning materials that have recycling options or are potentially toxic from disposal is direct and effective improvement. Recycling industries need a guaranteed supply of materials to support their operations. Simultaneously, by banning materials from disposal, governments signal to collection, transport, and recycling industries there is a market opportunity, which will spur additional investment.

Shifting Responsibility

Jurisdictions with successful environmental policies use regulation to require manufacturers and sellers of products to be responsible for collection and recycling. The intent is to shift responsibility from the end-user/consumer and encourage ease of recyclability of a product. Manufacturers, like recyclers, need material for their processes, and having them work together means discarded materials gain value and are recovered.

The benefits of recycling have remained constant. What needs to change is the thought process when things are discarded. The Blue Box has presented an important first step. After 30 years, it's time to think outside the box and apply new approaches to waste reduction.

Jo-Anne St. Godard is Executive Director of Recycling Council of Ontario, a not-for-profit, membership-based organization involved in policy, education, and project work around the issues of consumption, waste generation, reduction and diversion, and recycling.

Diverting waste from landfills, waterways

It is aging quietly in your storage locker, garage or basement — but taking up valuable space — the leftover paint you were saving for "touch ups," but that was two renovations ago! Product Care Association's PaintRecycle program solves the problem of what to do with leftover paint.

The PaintRecycle program includes more than 250 municipal and retail permanent collection sites, as well as more than 100 municipal one-day events mainly occurring from June through December. Dropping off waste paint for Ontario residents at any of these collection sites is free. For more information visit Product Care's website: regeneration.ca or your local municipal website.

As much as 10 million litres of paint is left over in Ontario every year, enough to fill four Olympic-sized swimming pools. The PaintRecycle program commits to recycle as much of the collected paint as possible ... back into paint.

After being collected, sorted for quality and colour, and then filtered and reprocessed, a very good quality paint product is the result — with several brands already on the market.

The PaintRecycle program is an example of "Extended Producer Responsibility" (EPR), the modern approach to waste management that puts the onus on manufacturers, retailers and first importers (collectively referred to as "stewards" according to provincial legislation) to develop a comprehensive strategy through which end-of-life products are diverted from landfills and waterways.

Product Care's members, who are the "stewards" of paint products in Ontario, cover the cost of the PaintRecycle program through their membership in Product Care, a not-for-profit organization that started managing the paint recycling program in Ontario at the end of June 2015.

"We were asked by the paints and coatings industry in Ontario to submit a paint recycling program to the provincial regulators," says Mark Kurschner, Product Care Association's president. "The fact is, most paint manufacturers and retailers in this province know us from programs in other parts of Canada. They recognize that Product Care has developed and managed numerous successful recycling programs over more than 20 years, and will continue to do so for the years to come."

CONTINUED ON BOTTOM OF PAGE 4

Paint cans being unloaded at a collection site. CONTRIBUTED

Got leftover paint? Recycle it!

Getting rid of leftover paint is easy and it's free for residents!* To find a collection site near you, use our depot finder at ReGeneration.ca

ReGeneration
Special waste recycling by Product Care

*Some restrictions may apply.

PaintRecycle

Ontario looks at new waste diversion law

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"This linear approach is neither sustainable given our finite supply of resources, nor is it in our long-term economic interests," says Rob Cook, CEO of the Ontario Waste Management Association. "Along with environmental costs, there are economic costs embedded in the bills we pay and the lost opportunities of throwing away the very resources our economy needs to grow."

A number of recent reports have underlined the positive environmental and economic opportunities associated with a more circular economic approach, including a Conference Board of Canada Report, which identified increasing reuse and recycling could support close to 13,000 new jobs in Ontario and boost the provincial GDP by $1.5 billion.

That economic opportunity combined with enormous environmental opportunities, including significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, is motivating jurisdictions around the world. For example, the European Union (EU), representing 28 European member countries is in the process of finalizing a legislative plan to help transform Europe into a more competitive resource-efficient economy.

The plan, which is due out before the end of the year will cover the whole value chain, from producer through to the end user, and focus on concrete measures aimed at 'closing the loop' of the circular economy.

"The initiative has gained a broad level of support, not only from the environmental community, but businesses as well as local authorities. A circular economy is viewed as fully compatible with the jobs and growth agenda, which is currently a priority in Europe," says Clarissa Morawski, managing director of Reloop Platform. "Producers are also keenly aware that a circular economy means greater access to resources in the future."

Ontario has expressed its intention to bring forward new waste diversion legislation, likely in the fall, which will set the framework for a circular economy and address the major problems that have plagued recycling programs.

The first step will be to create a new approach for "extended producer responsibility," which means that the company who creates a product or package must recycle it. The current approach has restricted innovation and economic efficiencies; allowed companies to offload costs directly onto consumers through fixed fees; outcomes have lacked proper oversight and enforcement; and many recyclers have been forced out of business due to monopoly organizations controlling the marketplace.

A new approach should take the best approaches from other jurisdiction and in doing so, Ontario can again become a leader — make individual companies responsible and accountable to meet rigorous recycling outcomes that drive value creation; ensure adequate resources to oversee these outcomes and the teeth to enforce compliance; and allow for innovation and efficiency by ensuring competition.

It will also be important for the legislation to acknowledge the portfolio of regulatory or non-regulatory tools available to drive change. Disposal bans, disposal levies, requirements on businesses to recycle and compost are all tools that can be employed and have been successfully implemented in other jurisdictions. The government also has the ability to drive change through its own procurement activities.

"Ontario has a unique opportunity through this legislation to improve resource efficiency; reduce our environmental footprint; increase productivity; and drive local jobs and economic growth," says Cook. "We think that is something everyone can get behind."

Why more recycling is good for Ontario's economy

Waste management employs **13,000 people** in Ontario.
Wages in the waste management sector are **22% higher** than the provincial average.
Recycling creates **10 times** more jobs than disposal. Every **1,000 tonnes** of waste recycled **creates 7 jobs**.
Waste management generates over **$3 billion** in economic activity and **$300 million** in investments in Ontario.
Recycling **conserves resources.**
Recycling **uses less energy, produces fewer GHGs** and has less environmental impact than using new materials.

New Material Recycling Facility in Toronto. The largest of its kind in North America. CONTRIBUTED

PaintRecycle: modern approach to waste management

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The EPR model has proven effective in other regions of Canada, including British Columbia, where the same "PaintRecycle" program that launched in Ontario on June 30 this year, was first implemented back in 1994.

The success of EPR is attributable, in part, to a shift in perspective about the nature of accountability related to end-of-life products, like paints and coatings. Under the EPR model, product recycling programs are managed by industry and are not funded by any governmental tax or subsidy.

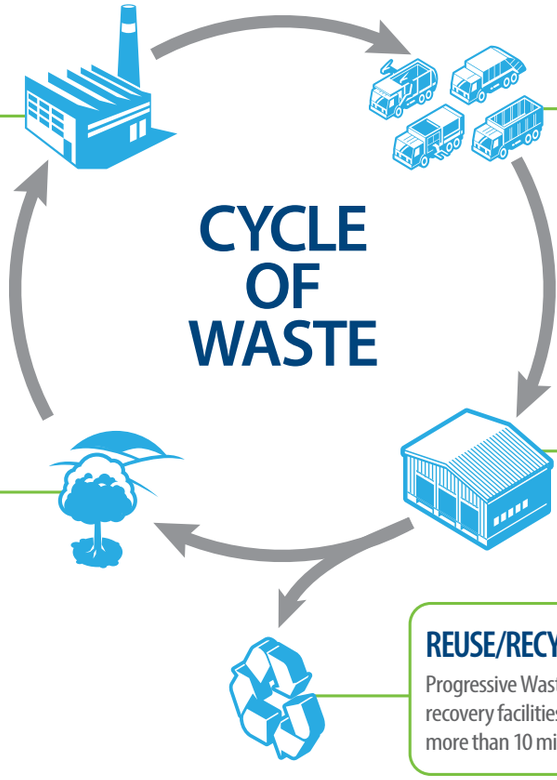
"The PaintRecycle program adopts the philosophy that the responsible recycling of end-of-life paints and coatings is just another constituent cost of the product," says Gary LeRoux, president of the Canadian Paint and Coatings Association, whose membership largely comprises participation in, and funding of, the PaintRecycle program. "Rather than perceive recycling as some sort of add-on or afterthought, it becomes an integral component of the product itself. Consumers in Ontario should know that every time they purchase a paint product in this province, provisions for its responsible disposal have already been made."

As new products continue to be captured under emerging and expanding provincial recycling regulations, it is likely that the recycling programs developed by Product Care and other EPR management organizations will serve as proven roadmaps for the way forward.

Collected paint cans ready for recycling. CONTRIBUTED

Creating a Circular Economy from Waste

Progressive Waste Solutions is committed to creating a more sustainable future. The recyclable materials that Ontario generates are valuable resources that, through our strengths in logistics and investments in infrastructure, we collect and process in an environmentally responsible way so that they are beneficially reused or recycled for new products.



BIOGAS

Landfill gas can also be converted to natural gas which can be used to fuel the trucks that collect the waste and recyclables – truly a circular approach to waste management.

COLLECTION

Progressive Waste Solutions operates the largest fleet of waste collection vehicles powered by compressed natural gas in Ontario and in Canada, which reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

MATERIALS DIVERSION

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REUSE/RECYCLE

Progressive Waste Solutions operates 40 material recovery facilities; the paper we process represents more than 10 million trees.

LANDFILLS

Progressive Waste Solutions converts landfill gas into electricity producing enough energy to power more than 32,000 homes or offsets the use of 200,000 barrels of oil each year.

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Give old electronics a new life and help preserve our planet

Technology is amazing — it powers our world and connects us to friends, family and information. Every time we turn around there's a new gadget that's faster and cooler than the last one.

So what happens to our tech when we're not using it anymore? It doesn't seem right to just trash it or stash it in a drawer. And we shouldn't. Just because our electronics are out of use, doesn't mean they are worthless. They are filled fascinating and reusable materials like plastics, rare earth metals and precious metals that can be recycled through a process called urban mining.

Urban mining is the process of extracting these precious metals and rare earth metals from recycled electronics without mining in ecologically sensitive areas.

Not only is it better for the environment, but in some cases urban mining is actually more efficient than traditional mining.

Consider this: One tonne of recycled smartphones yields 324 times more gold than the same weight in ore from a traditional mine.

The earth is reaching out for your help. Will you answer the call?

Recycle Your Electronics, operated by Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES), is your go-to resource for electronics recycling. OES prevents old electronics from being illegally exported or handled by irresponsible recyclers. OES makes it easy too. In fact, 96.5 per cent of Ontarians live within 10 kilometres of a collection depot. To find the nearest drop-off location or to download educational resources, visit RecycleYourElectronics.ca

The year 2009 marked the beginning of Ontario's waste electrical and electronics equipment (WEEE) diversion program. Since that time, Ontario Electronic Stewardship has successfully diverted approximately 67 million devices from landfills.

OES remains dedicated to running a program that is effective, efficient and convenient for everyone who calls Ontario home. OES helps recover valuable resources that can be put back into the manufacturing supply chain.

Technology advances fast, but we only get one earth. The future is in your hands. Don't let it go to waste.

Rare earth metals and precious metals in old electronics can be recycled through a process called urban mining. SHUTTERSTOCK

RAW MATERIALS GROUP

TAKING CHARGE

Recycle your single-use batteries

In 2007, Ontario's collection rate for used single-use household batteries was less than 5 per cent of batteries sold in Ontario.

In 2014, with momentum driven by industry incentives provided through the Stewardship Ontario Battery Incentive Program; municipalities, Raw Materials Company (RMC) and most importantly consumers have pushed Ontario's collection rate to 24 per cent.

Our patented alkaline battery recycling technology is able to upcycle over 88 per cent of a battery's contents into new products that are used in the steel and agricultural industries. No materials are landfilled and all of the recovered materials are consumed within a few hundred kilometres of RMC's ISO 14001 processing facility.

Raw Materials Company offers convenient and innovative recycling programs to ensure that single-use batteries are diverted from Ontario landfills. Aside from the 4,000 free drop-off locations at retail, non-profit and municipal locations, the most popular and convenient program for consumers has been curbside battery recycling. Working in collaboration with 56 municipalities across Ontario, Raw Materials Company helps to facilitate the collection of single-use household batteries at the curbside for 678,929 homes. Industry stewards fund the incentive program through Stewardship Ontario and municipalities can use the incentive to offset the delivery costs of the curbside battery program.

If you're planning to do a little work around the house this long weekend, do yourself and the environment a favour and round up all of your used single-use batteries.

The best place to keep them is in a non-conductive plastic container in a cool, dry place out of the reach of small children. Once you're ready, visit rawmaterials.com and use the handy search tool to find a free recycling point near you.

Incentives have increased collection rate for used batteries in Ontario. SHUTTERSTOCK

Wasted energy

Medical waste is a potent power source

Many Ontarians may assume that waste from medical facilities is kept out of landfills and disposed of in a way that keeps potentially dangerous pathogens from seeping into the environment. Not so.

The disposal of biomedical waste — blood and other bodily fluids from humans and animals, microbiology laboratory waste, and sharps such as needles and blades — is regulated by Ontario's Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change under Guideline C-4.

The guidelines outline how biomedical waste is to be segregated from other waste, stored or shipped, and ultimately disposed of. Sharps, for example, are sterilized in an autoclave, while other biomedical waste is incinerated.

However, items that contain blood and human waste such as bandages, cleaning wipes, incontinents and bed liners are not classed as biomedical waste and routinely thrown into garbage bags and sent to landfills.

Those bodily fluids may contain infectious pathogens that could pose a danger to the environment and to human health, argues Jayne Pilot, CEO of Pilot Performance Resources Management Inc. and an expert on biomedical waste disposal and international environmental standards.

The National Centre for Emerging & Zoonotic Infectious Disease estimates that one in every 25 patients has an infection related to hospital care. Disease management is increasing in Ontario with Ebola Virus, staph infection.

"When you close off a garbage bag with these items, you now have an environment (food, warmth, darkness) for the growth of those diseases," Pilot says.

In May, Pilot issued a white paper entitled "Health Care Waste Diversion and Destruction — Disposal Decision — Ensuring Health and Environmental Safety," in which she calls for all waste from health-care facilities to be incinerated and produce electricity.

When health-care waste carrying infectious bacteria ends up in landfill, it not only sits in an ideal environment for growth, but vectors such as mosquitoes, insects, birds, rodents and roaches, which feed on this waste, are carriers to spread disease, Pilot warns.

The solution is reducing risks through the total destruction of all health-care waste through Energy from Waste (EFW) — burning waste to produce electricity — removing these pathogens in landfills and possible spreading of pathogens to agricultural lands and waterways, or are spread by scavengers.

Hospitals throughout Europe have been burning all health-care waste for years, Pilot says. While hospitals in Ontario once had incinerators, they were not built to handle metals, plastics and other materials and, if they weren't upgraded, they were eventually closed.

But a facility run by Emerald Energy from Waste in Brampton, Ont., has been incinerating waste since 1992. It produces enough electricity to run its own operations and generates steam for the nearby Norampac paper mill. Opening other such facilities across the province will ensure that no health-care waste will end up in landfills, Pilot says.

"The more I talk to people, the public, they are flabbergasted that waste from hospitals and health-care facilities goes to a landfill," she says. "They're shocked."

The facility in Brampton, Ont. has been incinerating waste since 1992. It produces enough electricity to run its own operations and generates steam for the nearby Norampac paper mill.

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metro SPORT

Your essential daily news

The Leafs offered Jonathan Bernier the minimum $2.89-million, one-year deal ahead of arbitration

IN BRIEF

Stackhouse among new Raptors assistant coaches

The Toronto Raptors have hired assistants Jerry Stackhouse, Rex Kalamian and Andy Greer to round out Dwayne Casey's coaching staff.

It's the first NBA coaching position for Stackhouse, who played 18 years in the NBA and was an all-star with Detroit in 2000 and 2001.

Jerry Stackhouse
GETTY IMAGES

Stackhouse averaged 16.9 points, 3.3 assists and 3.2 rebounds in 970 career regular-season-games (564 starts). He helped Dallas reach the NBA Finals in 2006 and played under Casey in the Mavericks' 2008-09 season, when the Toronto head coach was an assistant on Rick Carlisle's staff.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Miller joins Timberwolves

Andre Miller's agent tells The Associated Press his client has agreed to terms with the Minnesota Timberwolves.

The Wolves hosted Miller for a visit to the team's facility on Wednesday. A few hours later, he reached an agreement, agent Andy Miller says. Terms of the deal were not immediately available.

Miller, 39, will be playing his 17th season in the league. He has averaged 12.8 points and 6.7 assists in his career.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bruins to host Canadiens in Winter Classic

The Winter Classic is coming to the home of the New England Patriots.

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman joined officials from the Boston Bruins and Montreal Canadiens on Wednesday to say the Original Six rivals would meet at Gillette Stadium on New Year's Day. The Bruins will be the first team to host the event twice. They also hosted it in 2010, at Fenway Park.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blue Jays shortstop Troy Tulowitzki hits a two-run home run against the Phillies at Rogers Centre on Wednesday night. DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tulowitzki displays the goods in Blue Jays debut

MLB

Shortstop fuels Toronto offence with homer, 3 RBIs

Shortstop Troy Tulowitzki impressed in his Blue Jays debut, hitting a home run with three runs batted in as Toronto beat the Philadelphia Phillies 8-2 on Wednesday night.

Tulowitzki and reliever LaTroy Hawkins were sent to the Blue Jays on Tuesday in a deal for shortstop Jose Reyes, reliever Miguel Castro and minor-league pitchers Jeff Hoffman and Jesus Tinoco.

Hawkins pitched in Tuesday night's 3-2 loss to the Phillies, but Tulowitzki needed a day to resettle his family before arriving in Toronto early Wednesday afternoon.

Knuckleballer R.A. Dickey (5-10) gave up two runs and struck out four over eight innings as Toronto (51-51) snapped a small two-game skid. Every batter in the Blue Jays' starting lineup had at least one hit, with five players earning two hits and Tulowitzki having three. Toronto finished with a total of 16 hits.

Bo Schultz pitched a scoreless inning of relief to close out the game for the Blue Jays.

> **"I think that's what you play this game for, to win. I think there's a great possibility here that that could happen and very soon.**
> Troy Tulowitzki

WEDNESDAY In Toronto

8	2
BLUE JAYS	PHILLIES

Jerome Williams (3-8) gave up 10 hits and four runs over 4-2/3 innings of work for Philadelphia (38-64), which lost for only the second time since the all-star break. Reliever Justin De Fratus allowed four runs in 2-1/3 inning, while Hector Neris had a scoreless inning.

Tulowitzki's fielding made an immediate impact on the game, throwing out centre-fielder Ben Revere in the night's first at-bat.

His bat contributed in the third inning, blasting a Williams offering to the second deck in left-centre field, bringing home Ryan Goins for a 2-0 Blue Jays lead. Fans chanted "TU-LO! TU-LO!" and gave him a rousing ovation as he rounded the bases.

Tulowitzki hit a stand-up double in his next at-bat, bouncing the ball off the wall in right-centre field. He advanced to third on a sacrifice fly by Josh Donaldson then scored on Jose Bautista's single.

Tulowitzki hit his second double of the night and his third RBI in the sixth, driving in Goins for a 6-0 Blue Jays lead.

Philadelphia got on the board in the seventh inning when Domonic Brown scored from third on a wild pitch by Dickey.

Ryan Howard drove in Revere in the top of the eighth on a single to right field, making it 8-2.

First baseman Edwin Encarnacion was scratched from the Blue Jays lineup a little over an hour before the game with a jammed middle finger on his left hand. X-rays came back negative.

Second baseman Devon Travis also sat out for Toronto with irritation in his left shoulder.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FRESH START

In his Rockies debut, Jose Reyes was 1-for-3 with a walk and a stolen base. The four-time all-star batted second and singled in his first at-bat for Colorado. The Chicago Cubs won the game 3-2.

Jose Reyes
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Patriots not done fighting

NFL

Pats' Brady files suit to stop suspension

Patriots owner Robert Kraft
GETTY IMAGES

Tom Brady took the fight over his "Deflategate" suspension to social media and federal court on Wednesday, and New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft backed the three-time Super Bowl MVP, saying "I was wrong to put my faith in the league."

One day after NFL commissioner Roger Goodell rejected Brady's appeal, the star quarterback posted a 507-word statement on Facebook with his firmest denial yet, writing: "I did nothing wrong."

Kraft followed with an unscheduled address to the media gathered at Gillette Stadium for the opening of training camp and the team's defence of its fourth Super Bowl championship.

"It is completely incomprehensible to me that the league continues to take steps to disparage one of its all-time great players and a man for whom I have the utmost respect," the Patriots owner said. "I have come to the conclusion that this was never about doing what was fair and just."

Right before the courts closed in Minnesota, the NFL Players Association asked U.S. District Judge David Doty to overturn Brady's four-game suspension — or at least put it on hold until the case can be heard. The union asked Doty to throw out the suspension before Sept. 4; that would keep Brady from missing any practices before the Patriots' Sept. 10 season-opener against the Pittsburgh Steelers.

"We need to free him up for that first week," said union attorney Jeffrey Kessler. "We don't believe this discipline can ever be sustained."

The lawsuit argues that the NFL made up its rules as it went along and misapplied the ones that were already on the books. In an interview, Kessler called it "offensive" that the league accused Brady of destroying his cellphone to obstruct the investigation, a claim Goodell made in upholding the suspension on Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RUGBY CANADA FACES SAMOA AT BMO FIELD IN TEST MATCH Canada's Tyler Hotson goes up for the ball against Samoa during the first half of their Pacific Nations Cup rugby match. Go to metronews.ca for game results. JON BLACKER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLS

Bradley and Giovinco out, Altidore in at all-star game

Toronto FC forward Sebastian Giovinco was ruled out of Wednesday's MLS all-star game and was replaced by teammate Jozy Altidore.

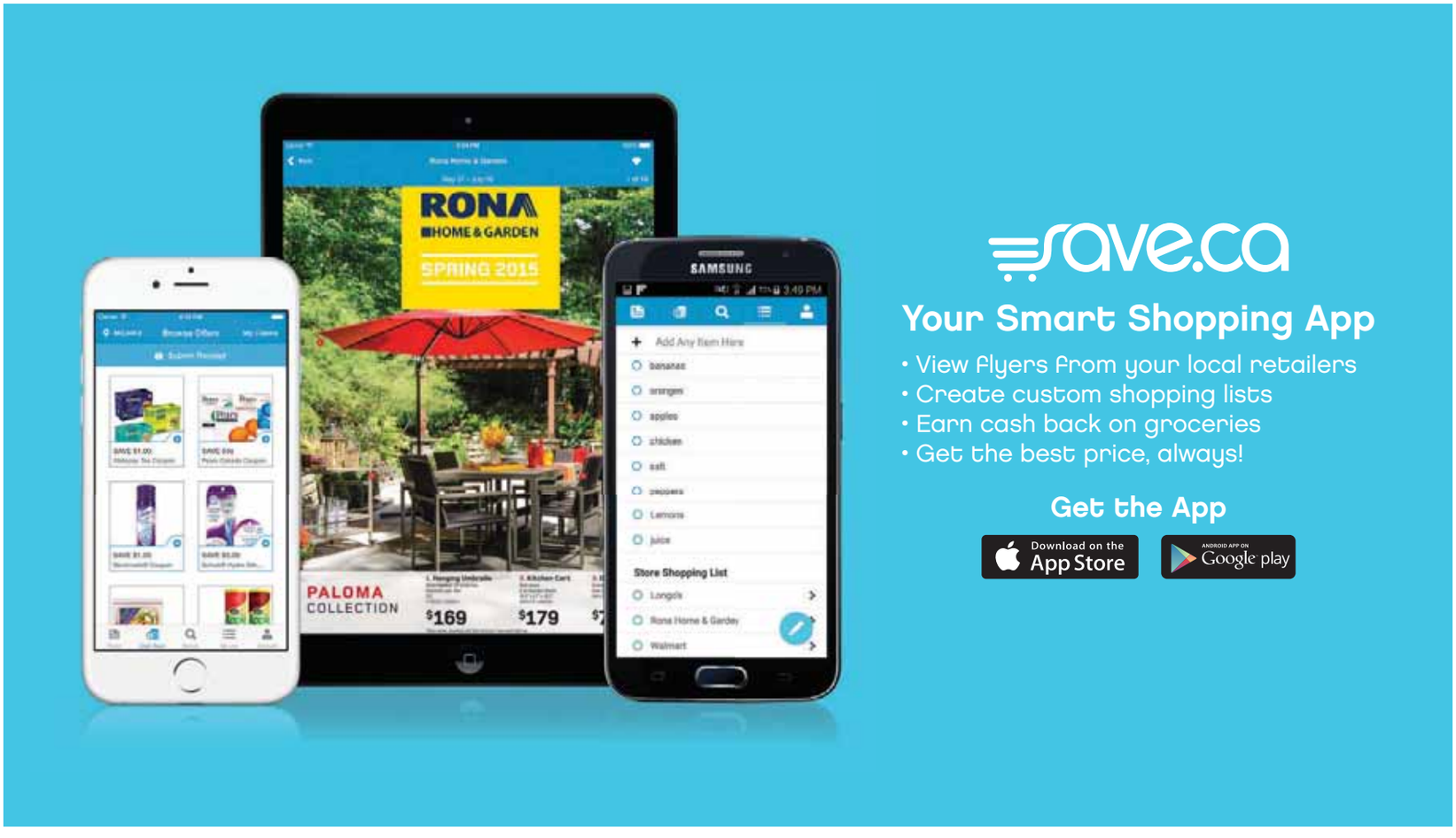
Altidore flew to Denver with Giovinco on Tuesday in case the star Italian had to miss the game. Giovinco, who has been struggling with a heel injury, was ruled unable to play following an examination Tuesday.

Jozy Altidore
GETTY IMAGES

Toronto captain Michael Bradley also skipped the game with a calf strain and is expected to be out seven to 10 days. Bradley played every minute of the Americans' recent six-game Gold Cup campaign.

Toronto has three games in the next 10 days starting Saturday in New England.

TFC (8-7-4) will also be without suspended midfielder Collen Warner on Saturday. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Tracey Ferguson dribbles past Janet McLachlan during a presentation in Toronto in March.
STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

White lie began para-sports career

PARAPAN 2015

Wheelchair basketballer first wanted to swim

Since it implies something underhanded, it would be misleading to say Tracey Ferguson was tricked into playing wheelchair basketball. Any deception was out of compassion.

But Ferguson, now 40 and a mainstay on the national women's team for 24 years, wanted to be a swimmer when her mother called Variety Village searching for a place where her preteen daughter could emulate her hero, Alex Baumann.

"My daughter is new to a wheelchair," Ferguson recalls her mother, Patricia Boudreau, explaining on the phone. "She swam before paralysis and she wants to be a swimmer. The gentleman there said, 'C'mon down and see what we have.' He failed to mention that they hadn't built a pool yet."

Ferguson, almost 12 at the time, excitedly arrived to see the facilities.

"We got down there and they threw me in a basketball chair, they threw me in a racing chair and I played some tennis. Finally I said, 'And the pool?' And the guy was like, 'We're going to build one. But we didn't want to turn you away. We didn't want to say no.'"

Ferguson admits she was "horrible" but she believed she could get better. Three Paralympic gold medals and a bronze with Canada along with four world championships and a bronze at that level proved her right.

But Ferguson was also attracted to the fact she could play with her friends. She couldn't play basketball standing up with them but all her pals from Reesor Park Public School in Markham could come down to Variety Village, sit in a wheelchair and play basketball with her.

> **"Once I found out about wheelchair sports, my world opened up again."**
> Tracey Ferguson

"We could play like we played before my injury," she said.

Ferguson, who calls herself "exceptionally old," has played for Canada so long she went through one 12-year stretch of being undefeated internationally and then through a rebuilding phase that has the team back on top as reigning world champs as it goes into the Parapan Games in Toronto. Ferguson is the only player remaining from the Paralympic champion teams in 1992, 1996 and 2000.

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RECIPE Grilled Zucchini, Tomato and Buffalo Mozzarella Stacks

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Ingredients
- 6 round slices zucchini (1-inch thick)
- 6 slices medium-sized red tomatoes (1/2-inch thick)
- 3 oz buffalo mozzarella cheese or smooth ricotta
- 6 slices medium-sized yellow tomatoes (1/2-inch thick)
- Balsamic glaze
- 1/3 cup balsamic vinegar
- 2 Tbsp maple syrup
- Chopped fresh basil

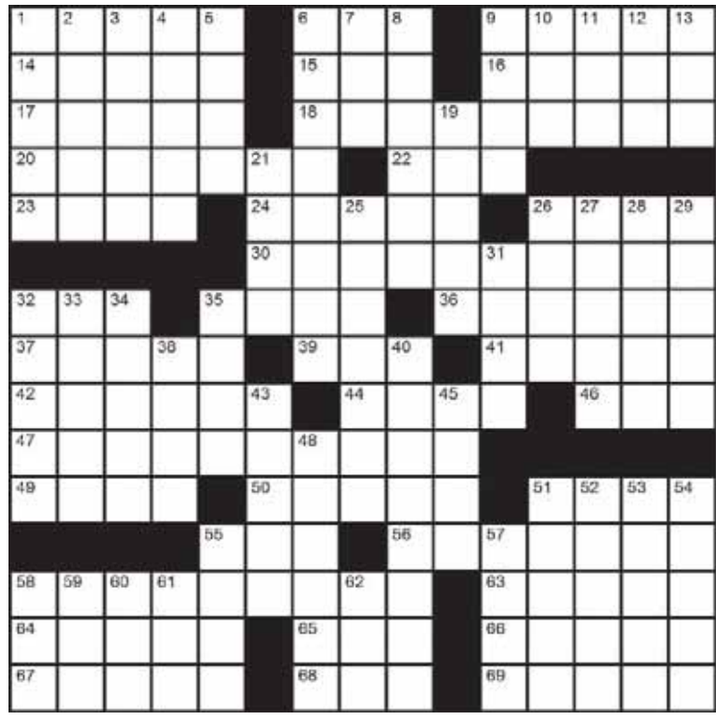
Directions
1. In a grill pan sprayed with vegetable oil, grill zucchini rounds, around four minutes per side, just until slightly tender.
2. On large serving platter, place red tomato slices in a single row. Divide half of cheese over top tomatoes. Top with yellow tomato slices and divide remaining cheese over top. Add zucchini rounds.
3. In small skillet, add balsamic vinegar and maple syrup. Bring to a boil and cook for one to two minutes, just until bubbles cover entire surface. Drizzle over top tomato stacks and garnish with basil. If glaze gets too thick, gently reheat and add a little more maple syrup.

Nutrition per serving (makes 6 stacks)
- Calories 70
- Protein 4 g
- Carbohydrates 6 g
- Total fat 1.5 g
- Cholesterol 5 g
- Sodium 100 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Bird of Jove
6. "This Hour Has 22 Minutes" network
9. Gladden
14. Pasted
15. Diminutive suffix
16. Mr. Firth
17. Succulent plant
18. Break in the workday
20. "The __ __ Code" (2006) starring Tom Hanks
22. __-mo replay
23. Navigated waters
24. Arise
26. Regrettably
30. As per #6-Down, locale in the Yukon: 2 wds.
32. '60s hit: "__ My Party"
35. Dry
36. Religious lecture
37. Update a route
39. Not nope
41. Existence
42. Appearances
44. Lids
46. Kicker's peg
47. Coniferous tree delicacies: 2 wds.
49. Dwelling
50. Regards
51. __ of St. Lawrence
55. Neutral shoe tone
56. Item in an eater's hand
58. Spanish author of Don Quixote
63. Scoundrel
64. Significant __ (Special someone)
65. Record co.
66. Astound
67. Picture
68. Grumpy's co-worker
69. Thaws

DOWN
1. "Zounds!"
2. Pool nuisance
3. Tropical fruit
4. Mr. Strauss' jeans
5. "I Dream of Jeannie" star Barbara
6. July 30th to August 2nd, 2015: Yukon __ Festival (Regional food celebration in Whitehorse and #30-Across)
7. __-ray player
8. Population count
9. Canyon lingerer
10. Movie studio area
11. Canadian journalist Mr. Velshi
12. Mr. Burton the director
13. Compass pt.
19. Namesakes of jazz singer Ms. Laine
21. Relinquish control
25. Honeybunch
26. Land amount
27. Speed __
28. Repent
29. Abbey Theatre dramatist, J.M. __ (b.1871 - d.1909)
31. Bird beaks
32. Bar soap brand, __ Spring
33. Song's swiftness
34. Phoney well-wishery
35. On __ (Without a contract)
38. Chill
40. Billboard chart fare: 2 wds.
43. Certain car
45. "Excuse me..."
48. Like a traveling circus venue
51. Garden guy
52. Regular
53. Hungarian composer, Franz __ (b.1811 - d.1886)
54. Escapes
55. Root vegetable
57. "Rio Lobo" (1970) actor Jack
58. Police officer
59. Ordinal suffix
60. Greek alphabet's 17th letter
61. Verify
62. Goth rocker

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Be careful how you react to criticism today. If you let your enemies see that your feelings are hurt they will go out of their way to hurt you further. Pretend that you are not the slightest bit bothered.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You find it hard to be modest, but today you would be wise not to draw attention to your superiority because there is something you have missed that could make you look very silly.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
The best way to get over your negative mood is to throw yourself into an activity that you enjoy. It doesn't have to be important, just something that takes your mind off your worries.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You want to speak your mind today, but be warned: you could be the one who is the topic of conversation if you stray from the facts. What others say won't be pleasant.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is not a good time to say or do anything that might meet the disapproval of people in power. Yes, there are facts that need to be looked at but don't make a big deal of it.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you tread on someone's toes today the consequences could be painful for both of you! Minor differences could escalate quite rapidly into major disputes, so steer clear of people who offend easily.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The most important thing now is that you act as if you care, even if you don't. Others are counting on you to raise their spirits and if you are as nice a person as they say you are you will tell them what they need to hear.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You are never afraid to be controversial but today there is a danger that you will go too far and make an enemy of someone powerful. You may be brave, but ask yourself: is it worth the hassle?

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Don't neglect the needs of those you love in your haste to make a name for yourself on the work front. You could all too easily turn people against you.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If you help someone today they will repay the favour later, when you are the one in need. In a nutshell: be kind to others and they will more likely be kind to you.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The time has come to end some kind of partnership. It won't be easy but you know it must be done. In the long-term it will be good for you both.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You must be honest with yourself about what you want and what you have to do to get it. And if you come to the conclusion that the price is too high then lower your sights and aim for something less demanding.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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1			9					
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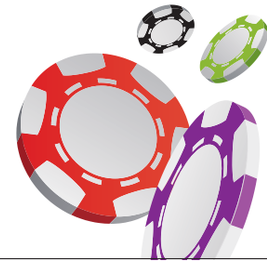

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